MAP-ZINE HIGHLIGHTS:

- *Stay updated with the latest places in the news.*
- *Experience top-quality, visually captivating, region-specific maps.*
- *Engage with map-based questions on current affairs.*
- *Gain insights through detailed solutions and explanations.*
- *Hone your mapping skills with provided practice maps.*

This volume includes coverage of Important Seas of the World

CHINA
LIBYA
EGYPT
U.A.E.
OMAN
TAIWAN
MYANMAR
IGER
SAUDI ARABIA
INDIA
BANGLADESH
INDIAN OCEAN

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MAP-ZINE

VOLUME - 3

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2024

A map module for UPSC, PCS & Other Competitive Exams

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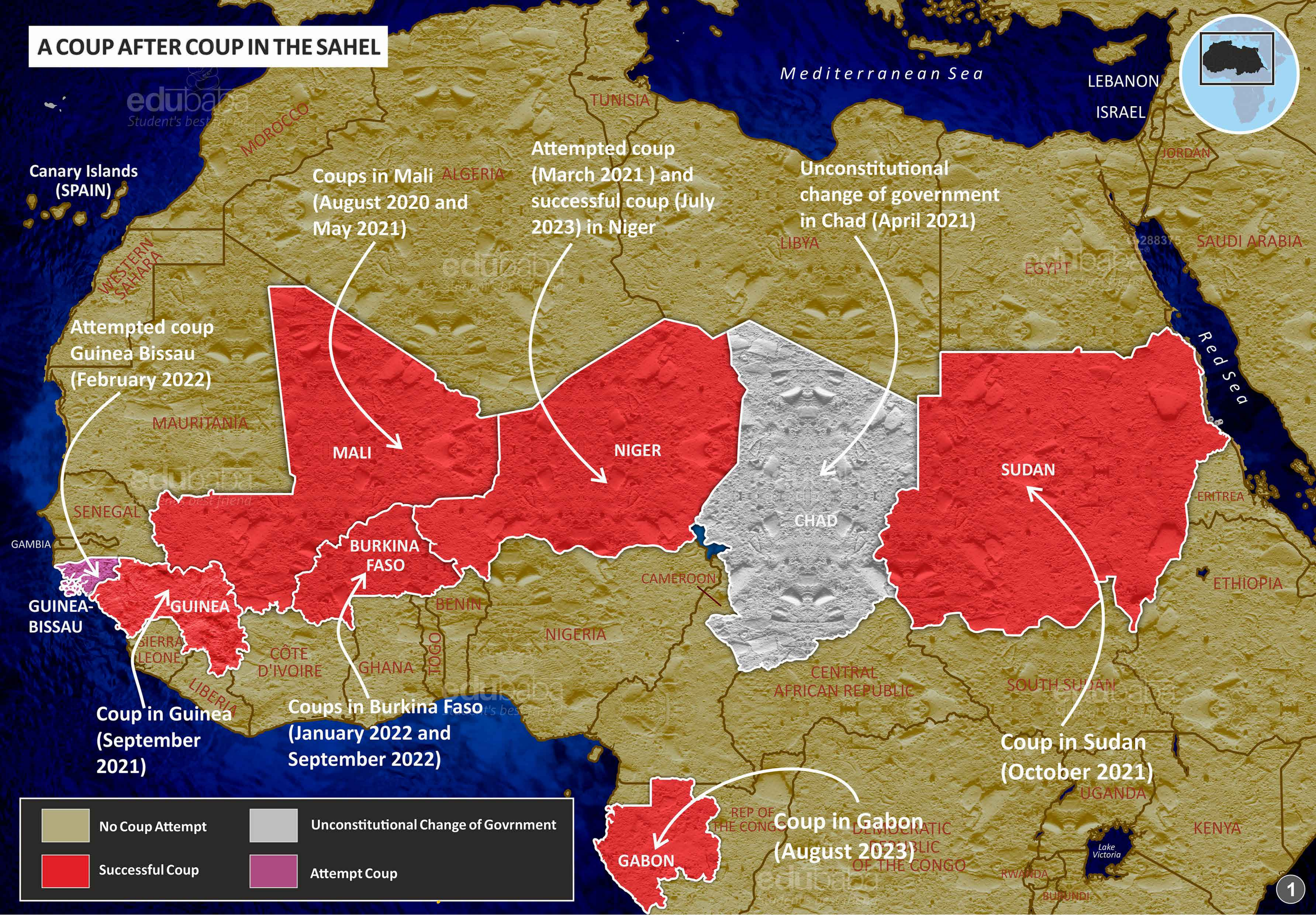
A COUP AFTER COUP IN THE SAHEL



Mediterranean Sea
LEBANON
ISRAEL
JORDAN
SAUDI ARABIA
Red Sea
TUNISIA
MOROCCO
ALGERIA
LIBYA
EGYPT
Canary Islands
(SPAIN)
WESTERN SAHARA
MAURITANIA
SENEGAL
GAMBIA
GUINEA-
BISSAU
GUINEA
SIERRA LEONE
LIBERIA
CÔTE D'IVOIRE
GHANA
TOGO
BENIN
MALI
BURKINA FASO
NIGER
NIGERIA
CAMEROON
CHAD
SUDAN
ERITREA
ETHIOPIA
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
SOUTH SUDAN
GABON
REP OF THE CONGO
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
UGANDA
KENYA
RWANDA
BURUNDI
Lake Victoria

Coups in Mali (August 2020 and May 2021)

Attempted coup (March 2021) and successful coup (July 2023) in Niger

Unconstitutional change of government in Chad (April 2021)

Attempted coup Guinea Bissau (February 2022)

Coup in Guinea (September 2021)

Coups in Burkina Faso (January 2022 and September 2022)

Coup in Sudan (October 2021)

Coup in Gabon (August 2023)

🟨 No Coup Attempt

🟥 Successful Coup

⬜ Unconstitutional Change of Govrnment

🟪 Attempt Coup

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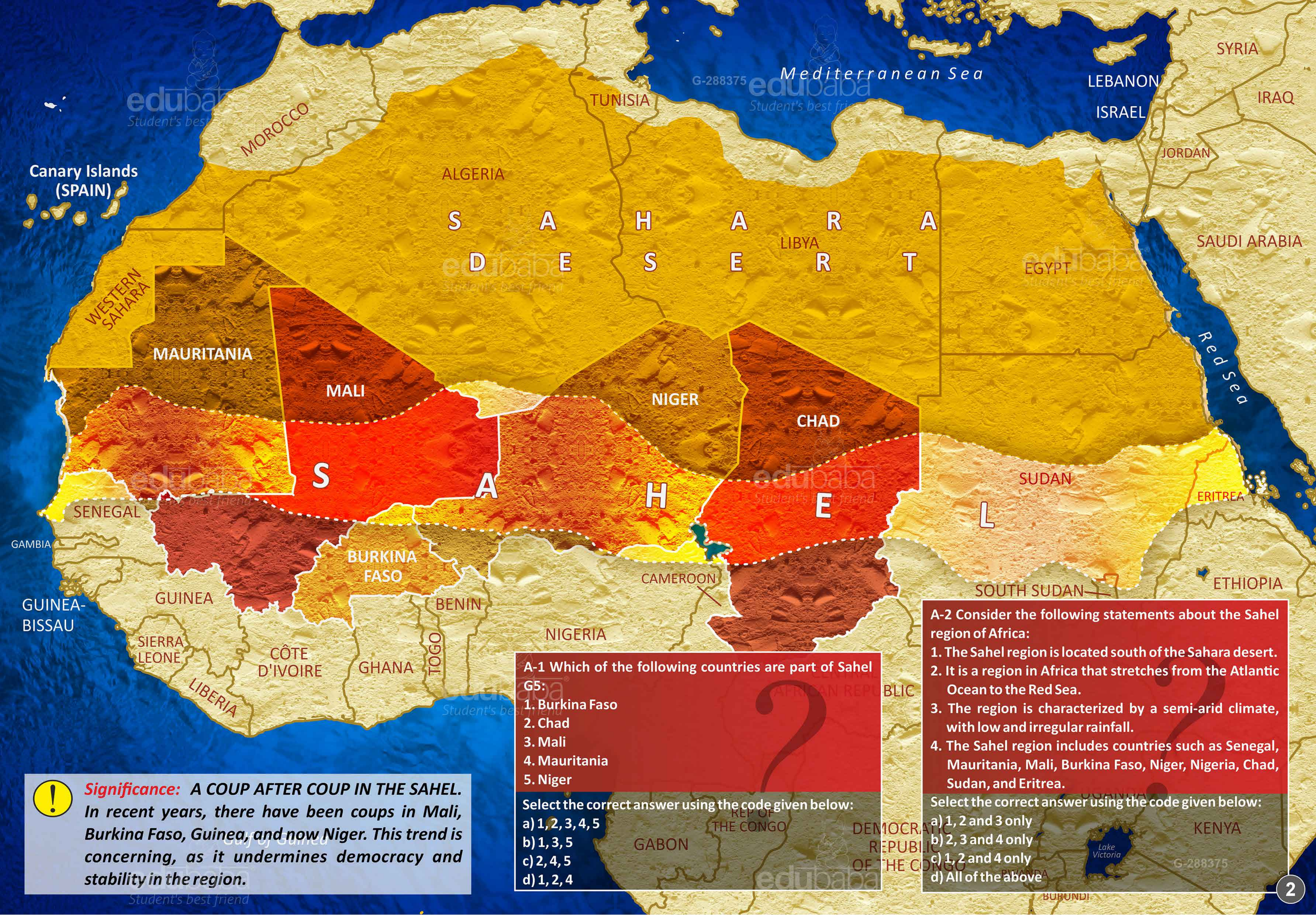
Mediterranean Sea
Canary Islands
(SPAIN)
MOROCCO
TUNISIA
ALGERIA
LIBYA
EGYPT
SYRIA
LEBANON
ISRAEL
IRAQ
JORDAN
SAUDI ARABIA
Red Sea
WESTERN SAHARA
S A H A R A
D E S E R T
MAURITANIA
MALI
NIGER
CHAD
SUDAN
ERITREA
S A H E L
SENEGAL
GAMBIA
GUINEA-BISSAU
GUINEA
SIERRA LEONE
LIBERIA
CÔTE D'IVOIRE
GHANA
TOGO
BENIN
BURKINA FASO
NIGERIA
CAMEROON
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
SOUTH SUDAN
ETHIOPIA
KENYA
UGANDA
REP OF THE CONGO
GABON
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
RWANDA
BURUNDI
Lake Victoria
Gulf of Guinea

Significance: *A COUP AFTER COUP IN THE SAHEL. In recent years, there have been coups in Mali, Burkina Faso, Guinea, and now Niger. This trend is concerning, as it undermines democracy and stability in the region.*

A-1 Which of the following countries are part of Sahel G5:

1. Burkina Faso
2. Chad
3. Mali
4. Mauritania
5. Niger

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
b) 1, 3, 5
c) 2, 4, 5
d) 1, 2, 4

A-2 Consider the following statements about the Sahel region of Africa:

1. The Sahel region is located south of the Sahara desert.
2. It is a region in Africa that stretches from the Atlantic Ocean to the Red Sea.
3. The region is characterized by a semi-arid climate, with low and irregular rainfall.
4. The Sahel region includes countries such as Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria, Chad, Sudan, and Eritrea.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a) 1, 2 and 3 only
b) 2, 3 and 4 only
c) 1, 2 and 4 only
d) All of the above

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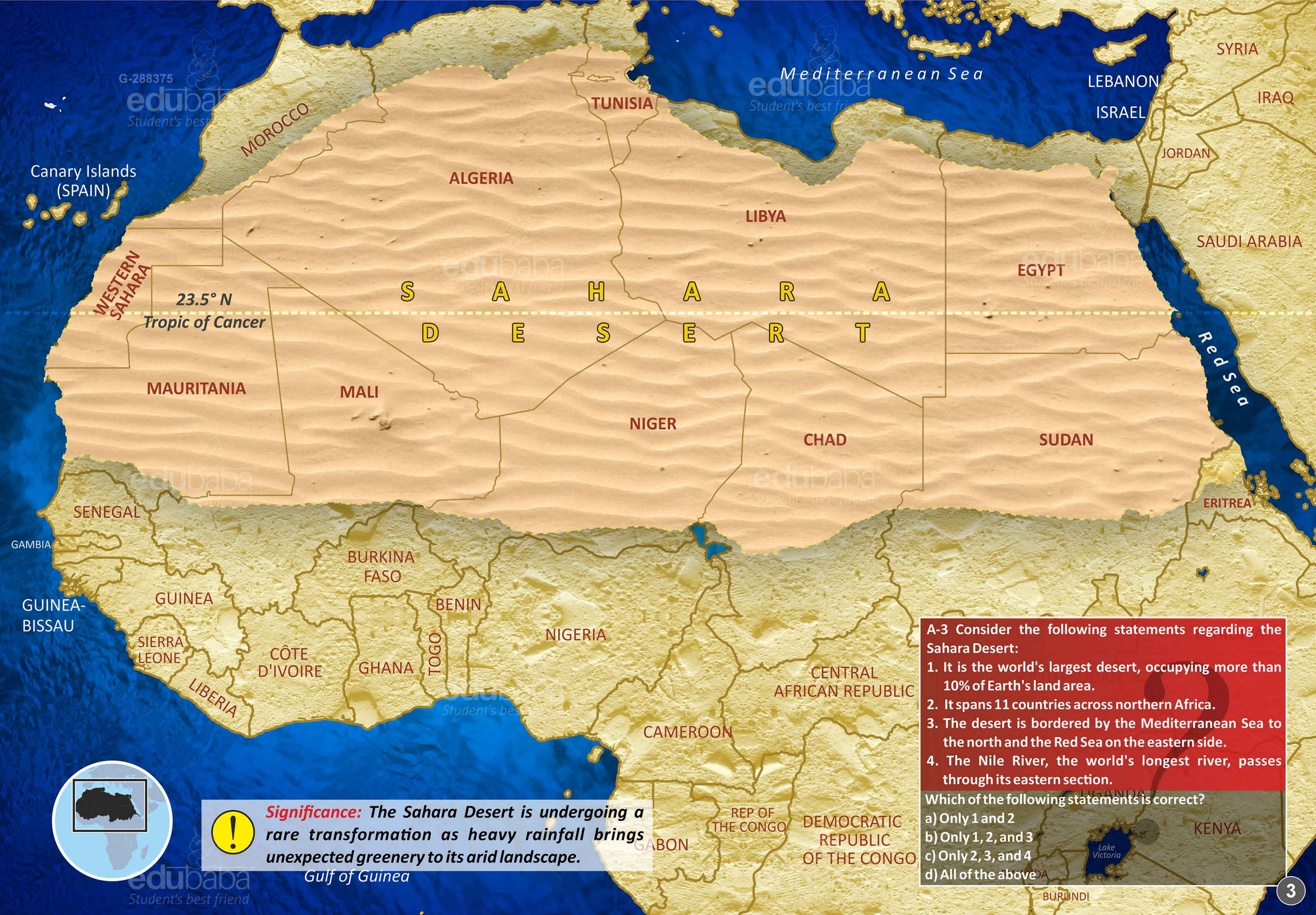

Mediterranean Sea
SYRIA
LEBANON
ISRAEL
IRAQ
JORDAN
TUNISIA
MOROCCO
Canary Islands
(SPAIN)
ALGERIA
LIBYA
SAUDI ARABIA
EGYPT
WESTERN SAHARA
23.5° N
Tropic of Cancer
SAHARA
DESERT
Red Sea
MAURITANIA
MALI
NIGER
CHAD
SUDAN
ERITREA
SENEGAL
GAMBIA
BURKINA
FASO
GUINEA
GUINEA-
BISSAU
BENIN
NIGERIA
SIERRA
LEONE
CÔTE
D'IVOIRE
GHANA
TOGO
LIBERIA
CENTRAL
AFRICAN REPUBLIC
CAMEROON
REP OF
THE CONGO
DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC
OF THE CONGO
GABON
KENYA
Lake
Victoria
BURUNDI
Gulf of Guinea

A-3 Consider the following statements regarding the Sahara Desert:

1. It is the world's largest desert, occupying more than 10% of Earth's land area.
2. It spans 11 countries across northern Africa.
3. The desert is bordered by the Mediterranean Sea to the north and the Red Sea on the eastern side.
4. The Nile River, the world's longest river, passes through its eastern section.

Which of the following statements is correct?

a) Only 1 and 2
b) Only 1, 2, and 3
c) Only 2, 3, and 4
d) All of the above

! *Significance:* *The Sahara Desert is undergoing a rare transformation as heavy rainfall brings unexpected greenery to its arid landscape.*

A-4 The Blue Line is a demarcation line established by the United Nations for monitoring a ceasefire. Which of the following statements about the Blue Line is correct?

1. It serves as a border between Lebanon and Israel.
2. It was drawn following Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon in 2000.
4. The Blue Line runs entirely along the Mediterranean coastline.
3. It includes territory disputed between Lebanon and Syria.

Options:

a) Only 1 and 2
b) Only 3
c) Only 1, 2, and 4
d) All of the above

A-5 Which of the following is TRUE about Lebanon's borders?

1. Lebanon shares a maritime border with Cyprus.
2. The border with Israel is often referred to as the "Blue Line."
3. Lebanon shares its longest land border with Jordan.

a) Only 1
b) Only 1 and 2
c) Only 2 and 3
d) All of the above

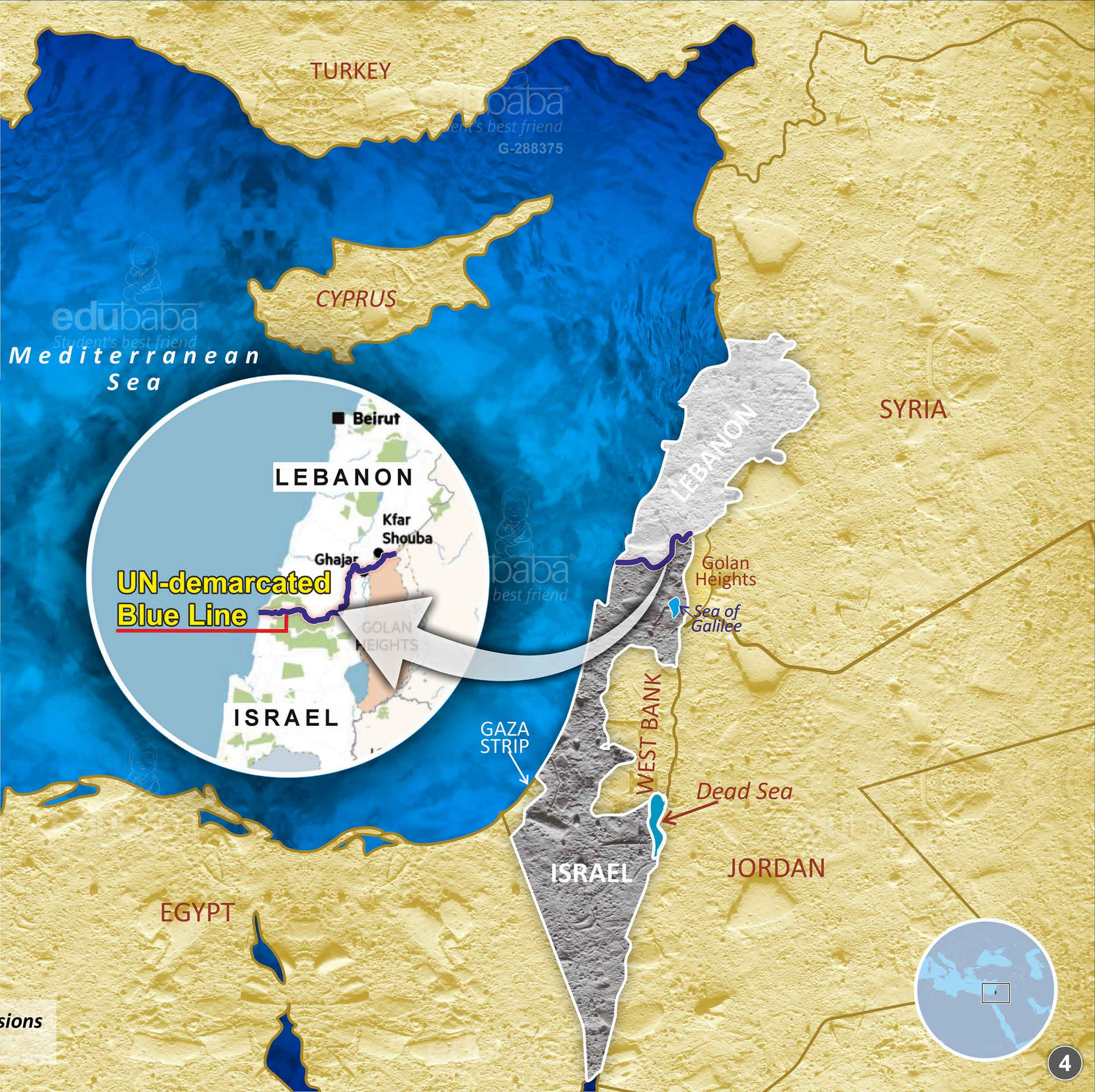
A-6 Israel shares its borders with which of the following countries?

1. Lebanon
2. Syria
3. Egypt
4. Jordan
5. Iraq

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

a) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
b) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only
c) 2, 3, and 5 only
d) 1, 3, and 4 only

Significance: *UN warns of escalating tensions on Lebanon-Israel 'Blue Line' frontier.*


TURKEY
CYPRUS
Mediterranean Sea
SYRIA
LEBANON
Beirut
LEBANON
Kfar Shouba
Ghajar
UN-demarcated Blue Line
GOLAN HEIGHTS
ISRAEL
Golan Heights
Sea of Galilee
GAZA STRIP
WEST BANK
Dead Sea
ISRAEL
JORDAN
EGYPT

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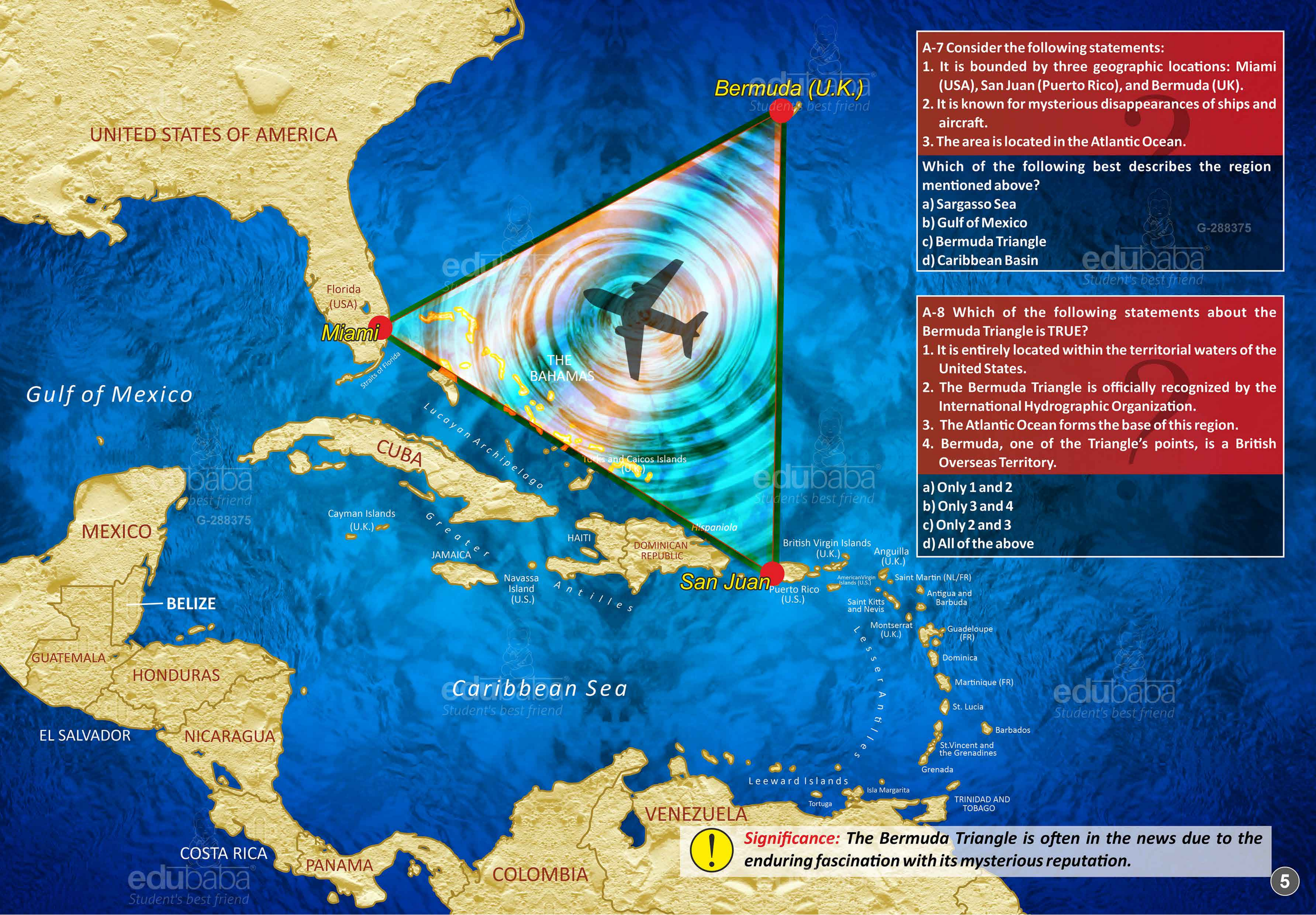
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Bermuda (U.K.)
Florida (USA)
Miami
Straits of Florida
THE BAHAMAS
Gulf of Mexico
Lucayan Archipelago
CUBA
Turks and Caicos Islands (U.K.)
Hispaniola
Cayman Islands (U.K.)
Greater Antilles
MEXICO
HAITI
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
JAMAICA
Navassa Island (U.S.)
San Juan
Puerto Rico (U.S.)
British Virgin Islands (U.K.)
AmericanVirgin Islands (U.S.)
Anguilla (U.K.)
Saint Martin (NL/FR)
Antigua and Barbuda
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Montserrat (U.K.)
Guadeloupe (FR)
Dominica
Martinique (FR)
St. Lucia
Barbados
St.Vincent and the Grenadines
Grenada
Lesser Antilles
Leeward Islands
Isla Margarita
Tortuga
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
BELIZE
GUATEMALA
HONDURAS
EL SALVADOR
NICARAGUA
Caribbean Sea
COSTA RICA
PANAMA
COLOMBIA
VENEZUELA

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A-7 Consider the following statements:

1. It is bounded by three geographic locations: Miami (USA), San Juan (Puerto Rico), and Bermuda (UK).
2. It is known for mysterious disappearances of ships and aircraft.
3. The area is located in the Atlantic Ocean.

Which of the following best describes the region mentioned above?

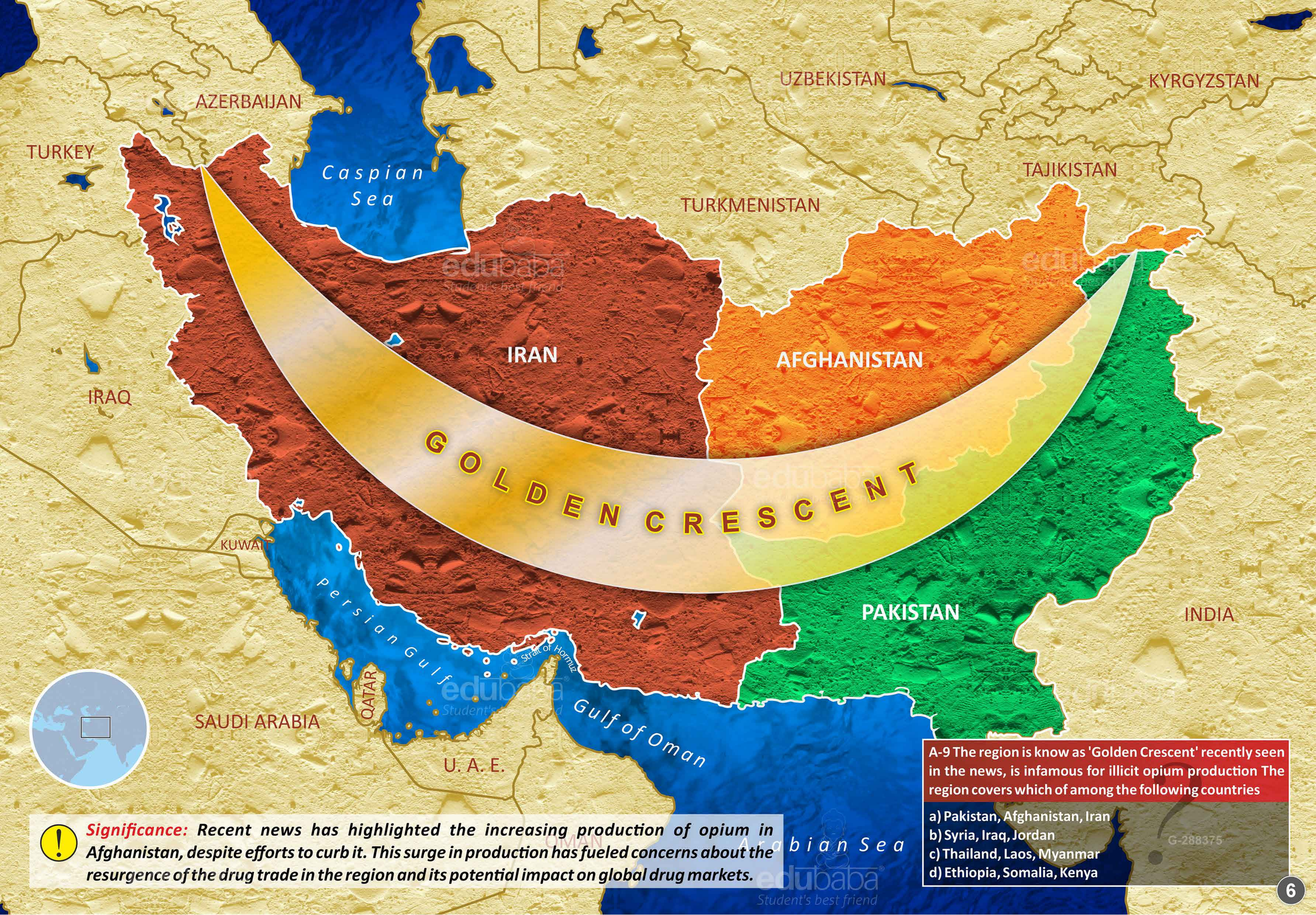
a) Sargasso Sea
b) Gulf of Mexico
c) Bermuda Triangle
d) Caribbean Basin

A-8 Which of the following statements about the Bermuda Triangle is TRUE?

1. It is entirely located within the territorial waters of the United States.
2. The Bermuda Triangle is officially recognized by the International Hydrographic Organization.
3. The Atlantic Ocean forms the base of this region.
4. Bermuda, one of the Triangle's points, is a British Overseas Territory.

a) Only 1 and 2
b) Only 3 and 4
c) Only 2 and 3
d) All of the above

! ***Significance:* The Bermuda Triangle is often in the news due to the enduring fascination with its mysterious reputation.**


AZERBAIJAN
UZBEKISTAN
KYRGYZSTAN
TURKEY
Caspian Sea
TAJIKISTAN
TURKMENISTAN
IRAN
AFGHANISTAN
IRAQ
GOLDEN CRESCENT
KUWAIT
PAKISTAN
INDIA
Persian Gulf
Strait of Hormuz
QATAR
SAUDI ARABIA
Gulf of Oman
U. A. E.
OMAN
Arabian Sea

A-9 The region is know as 'Golden Crescent' recently seen in the news, is infamous for illicit opium production The region covers which of among the following countries

a) Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran
b) Syria, Iraq, Jordan
c) Thailand, Laos, Myanmar
d) Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya

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! ***Significance:*** *Recent news has highlighted the increasing production of opium in Afghanistan, despite efforts to curb it. This surge in production has fueled concerns about the resurgence of the drug trade in the region and its potential impact on global drug markets.*

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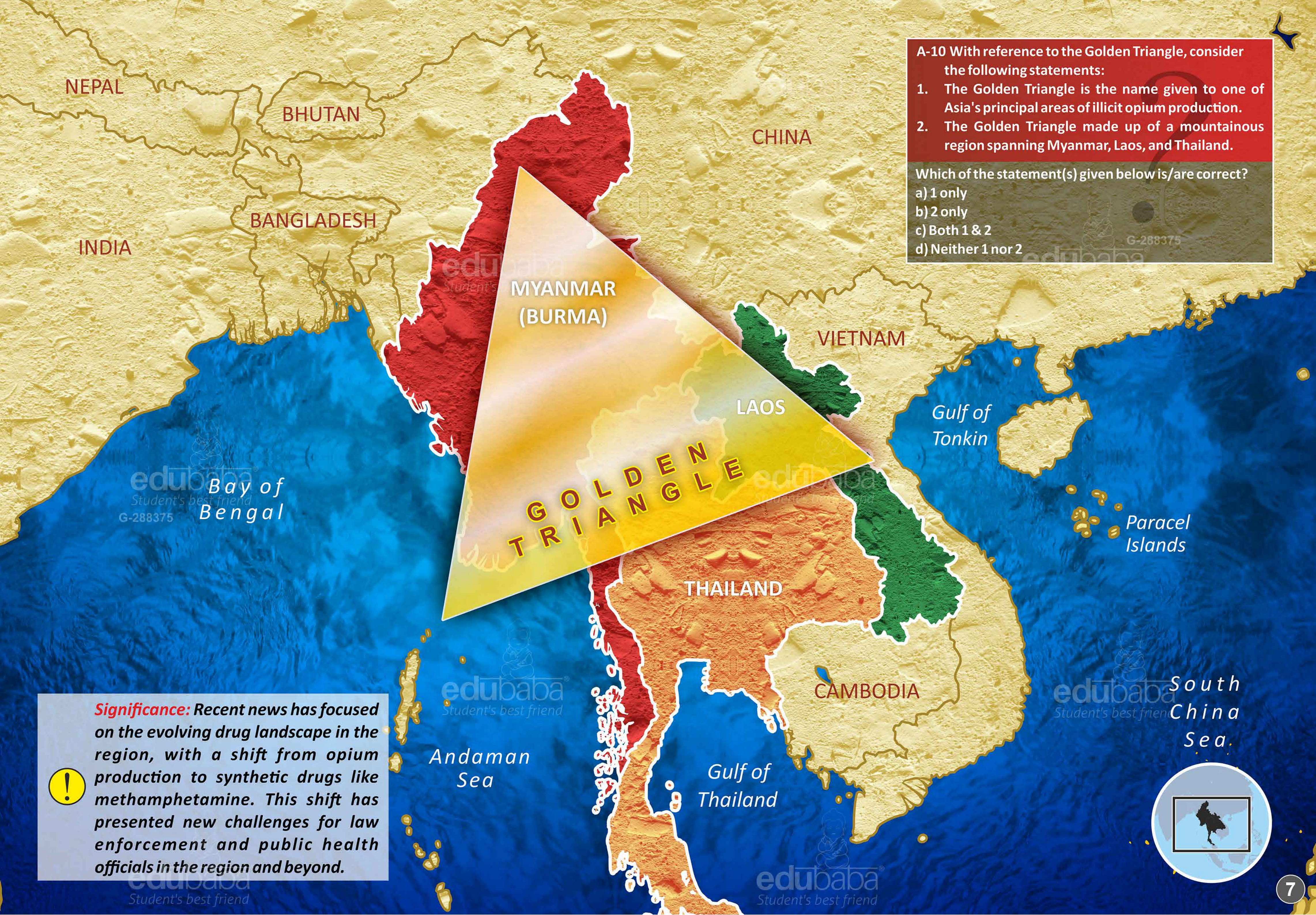
A-10 With reference to the Golden Triangle, consider the following statements:

1. The Golden Triangle is the name given to one of Asia's principal areas of illicit opium production.
2. The Golden Triangle made up of a mountainous region spanning Myanmar, Laos, and Thailand.

Which of the statement(s) given below is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 & 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2


NEPAL
BHUTAN
CHINA
BANGLADESH
INDIA
MYANMAR (BURMA)
VIETNAM
LAOS
GOLDEN TRIANGLE
Gulf of Tonkin
Bay of Bengal
Paracel Islands
THAILAND
CAMBODIA
South China Sea
Andaman Sea
Gulf of Thailand

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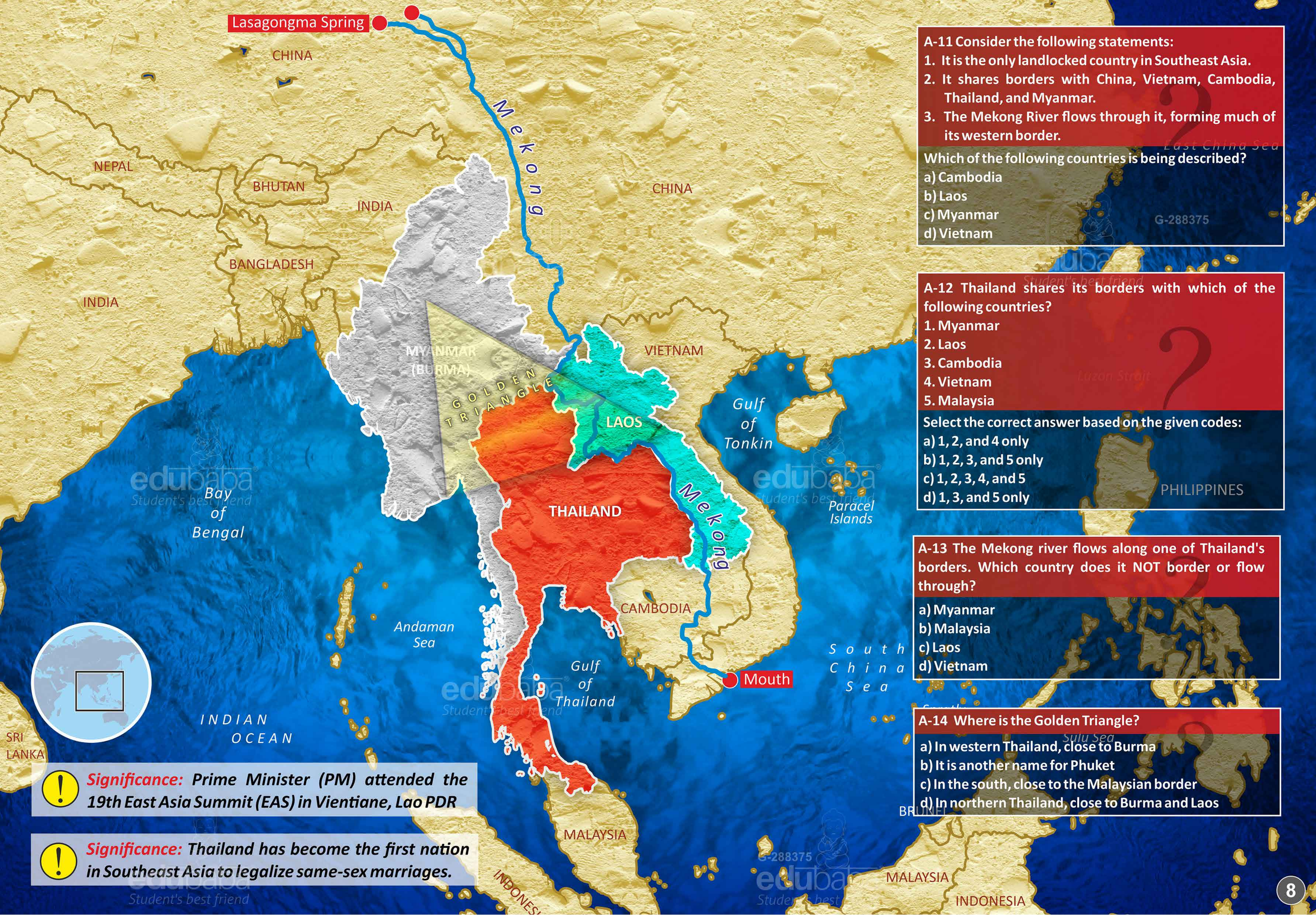
Significance: *Recent news has focused on the evolving drug landscape in the region, with a shift from opium production to synthetic drugs like methamphetamine. This shift has presented new challenges for law enforcement and public health officials in the region and beyond.*


Lasagongma Spring
CHINA
Mekong
NEPAL
BHUTAN
INDIA
CHINA
BANGLADESH
INDIA
MYANMAR (BURMA)
GOLDEN TRIANGLE
VIETNAM
LAOS
Gulf of Tonkin
East China Sea
Luzon Strait
PHILIPPINES
THAILAND
Mekong
Bay of Bengal
Paracel Islands
CAMBODIA
Andaman Sea
Gulf of Thailand
Mouth
South China Sea
Sulu Sea
INDIAN OCEAN
SRI LANKA
MALAYSIA
INDONESIA
BRUNEI
MALAYSIA
INDONESIA

A-11 Consider the following statements:

1. It is the only landlocked country in Southeast Asia.
2. It shares borders with China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, and Myanmar.
3. The Mekong River flows through it, forming much of its western border.

Which of the following countries is being described?

a) Cambodia
b) Laos
c) Myanmar
d) Vietnam

A-12 Thailand shares its borders with which of the following countries?

1. Myanmar
2. Laos
3. Cambodia
4. Vietnam
5. Malaysia

Select the correct answer based on the given codes:

a) 1, 2, and 4 only
b) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
c) 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5
d) 1, 3, and 5 only

A-13 The Mekong river flows along one of Thailand's borders. Which country does it NOT border or flow through?

a) Myanmar
b) Malaysia
c) Laos
d) Vietnam

A-14 Where is the Golden Triangle?

a) In western Thailand, close to Burma
b) It is another name for Phuket
c) In the south, close to the Malaysian border
d) In northern Thailand, close to Burma and Laos

! ***Significance:*** *Prime Minister (PM) attended the 19th East Asia Summit (EAS) in Vientiane, Lao PDR*

! ***Significance:*** *Thailand has become the first nation in Southeast Asia to legalize same-sex marriages.*

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A-15 Consider the following statements regarding Coral Triangle:

1. It includes countries like Indonesia, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea.
2. It is known as the 'Amazon of the seas'.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

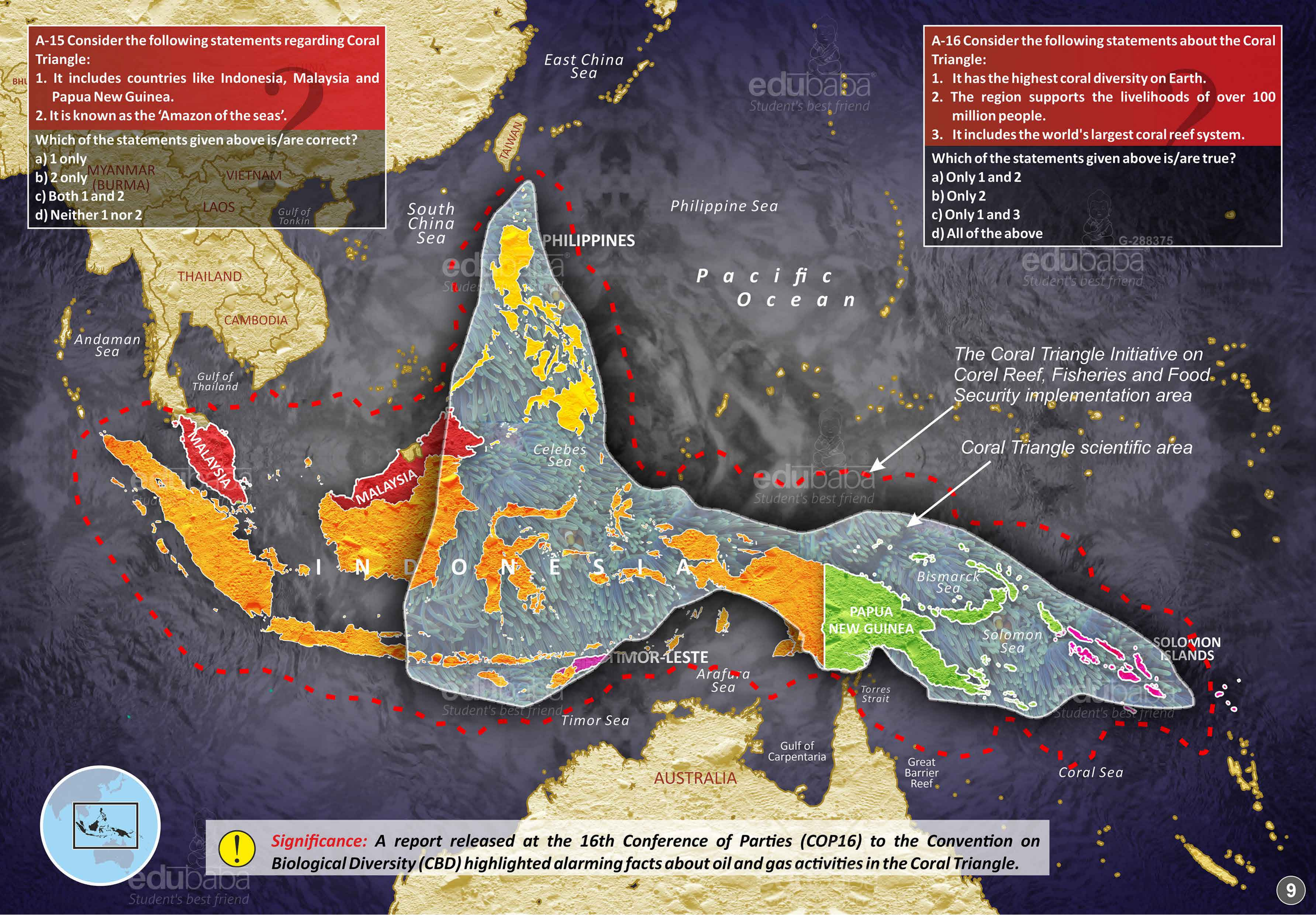
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

A-16 Consider the following statements about the Coral Triangle:

1. It has the highest coral diversity on Earth.
2. The region supports the livelihoods of over 100 million people.
3. It includes the world's largest coral reef system.

Which of the statements given above is/are true?

a) Only 1 and 2
b) Only 2
c) Only 1 and 3
d) All of the above


East China Sea
TAIWAN
BHU
MYANMAR (BURMA)
VIETNAM
LAOS
Gulf of Tonkin
South China Sea
Philippine Sea
PHILIPPINES
Pacific Ocean
THAILAND
CAMBODIA
Andaman Sea
Gulf of Thailand
MALAYSIA
MALAYSIA
Celebes Sea
INDONESIA
TIMOR-LESTE
Arafura Sea
Timor Sea
Torres Strait
Bismarck Sea
PAPUA NEW GUINEA
Solomon Sea
SOLOMON ISLANDS
Gulf of Carpentaria
AUSTRALIA
Great Barrier Reef
Coral Sea

The Coral Triangle Initiative on Corel Reef, Fisheries and Food Security implementation area

Coral Triangle scientific area

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Significance: ***A report released at the 16th Conference of Parties (COP16) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) highlighted alarming facts about oil and gas activities in the Coral Triangle.***

A-17 Black Sea is bordered by which of the following countries?

1. Bulgaria
2. Georgia
3. Ukraine
4. Italy

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a) 1, 2 & 3 only
b) 2, 3 & 4 only
c) 1, 2 & 4 only
d) All of the above

A-18 If you were travelling by boat, which would be the route from the Mediterranean Sea to the Black Sea?

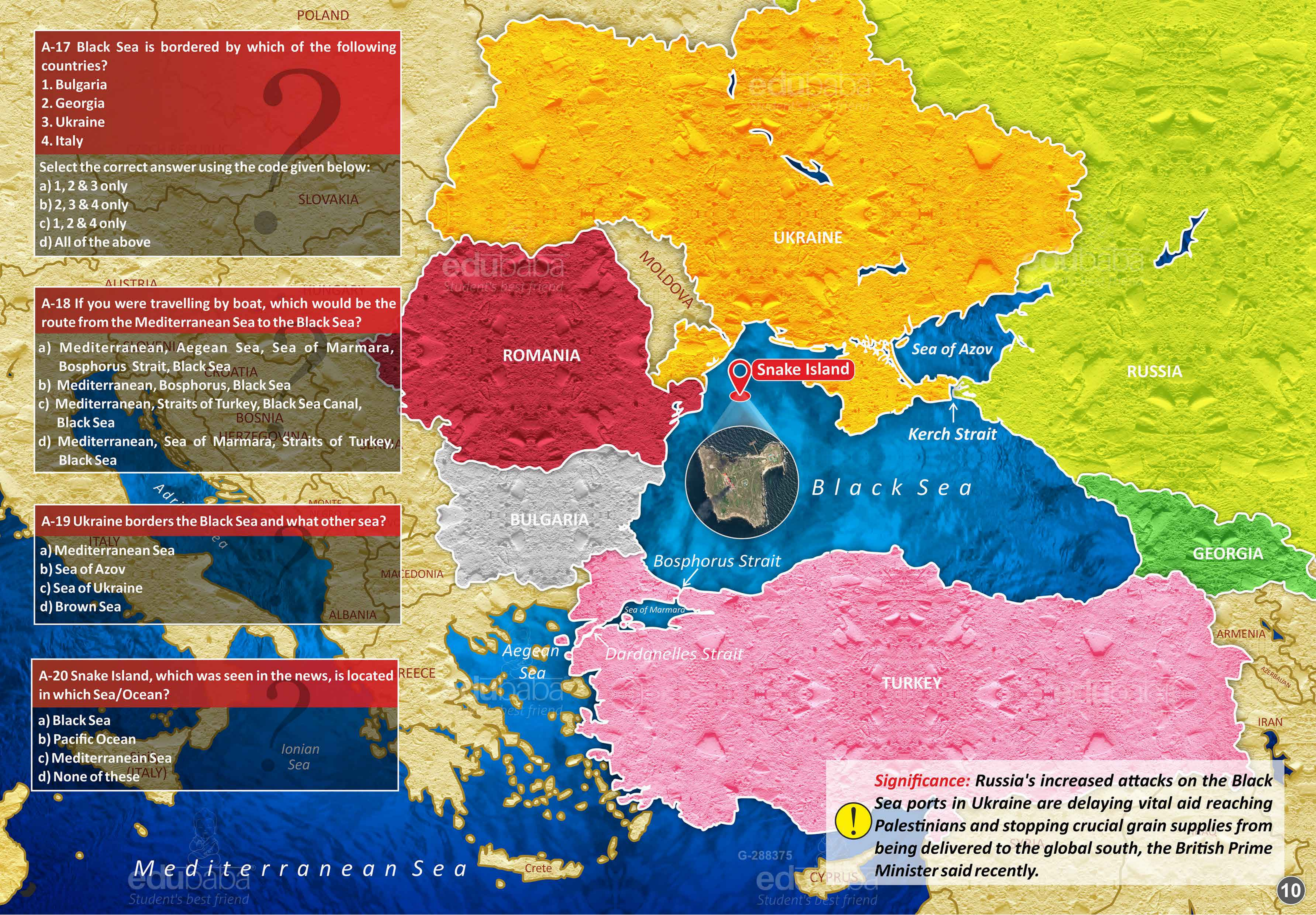
a) Mediterranean, Aegean Sea, Sea of Marmara, Bosphorus Strait, Black Sea
b) Mediterranean, Bosphorus, Black Sea
c) Mediterranean, Straits of Turkey, Black Sea Canal, Black Sea
d) Mediterranean, Sea of Marmara, Straits of Turkey, Black Sea

A-19 Ukraine borders the Black Sea and what other sea?

a) Mediterranean Sea
b) Sea of Azov
c) Sea of Ukraine
d) Brown Sea

A-20 Snake Island, which was seen in the news, is located in which Sea/Ocean?

a) Black Sea
b) Pacific Ocean
c) Mediterranean Sea
d) None of these


POLAND
CZECH REPUBLIC
SLOVAKIA
AUSTRIA
HUNGARY
SLOVENIA
CROATIA
BOSNIA
HERZEGOVINA
MONTENEGRO
ITALY
MACEDONIA
ALBANIA
GREECE
Adriatic Sea
Ionian Sea
Sicily (ITALY)
Mediterranean Sea
Crete
Aegean Sea
UKRAINE
MOLDOVA
ROMANIA
BULGARIA
RUSSIA
GEORGIA
TURKEY
ARMENIA
AZERBAIJAN
IRAN
SYRIA
CYPRUS
Sea of Azov
Snake Island
Kerch Strait
Black Sea
Bosphorus Strait
Sea of Marmara
Dardanelles Strait

***Significance:** Russia's increased attacks on the Black Sea ports in Ukraine are delaying vital aid reaching Palestinians and stopping crucial grain supplies from being delivered to the global south, the British Prime Minister said recently.*

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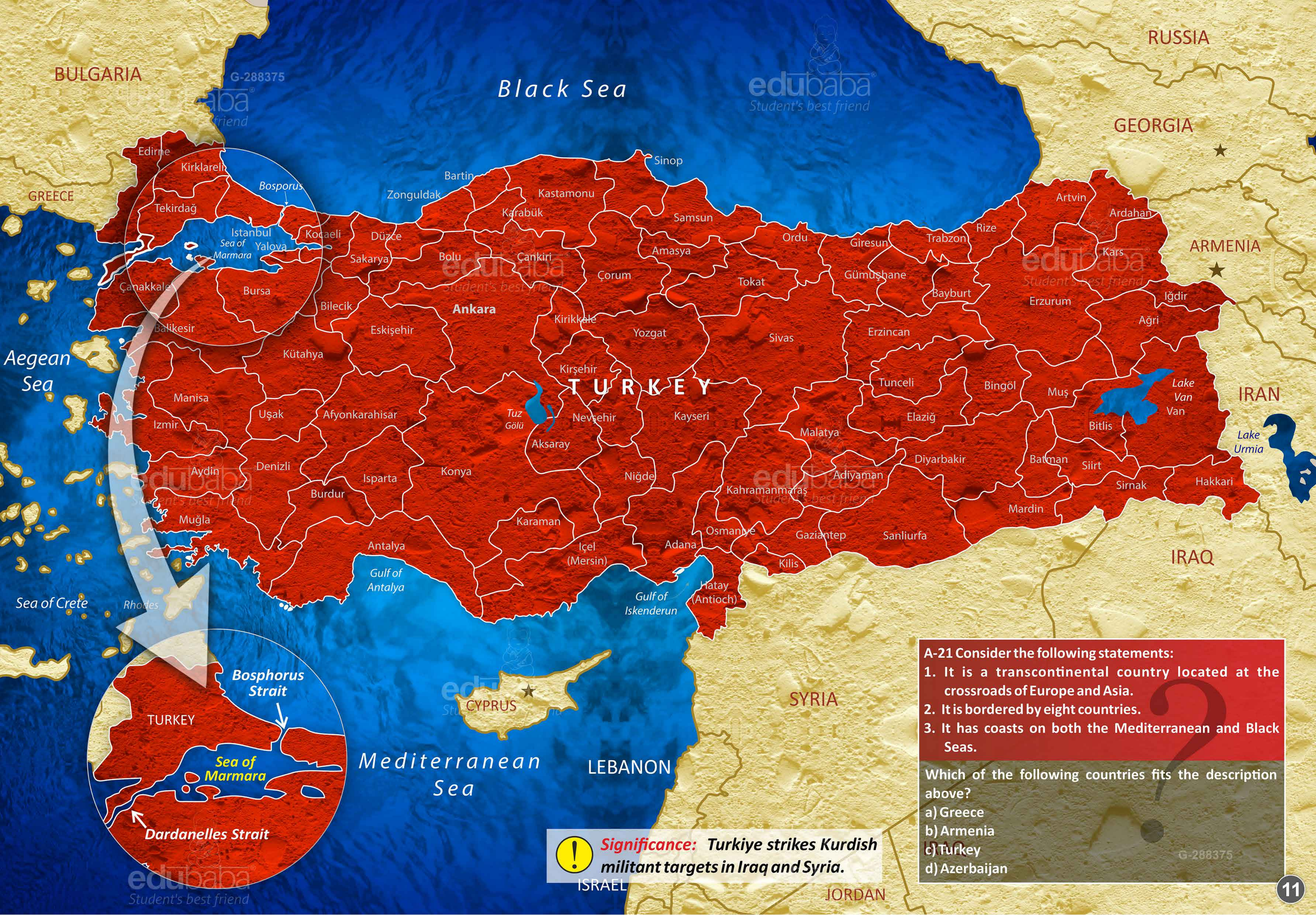

RUSSIA
BULGARIA
Black Sea
GEORGIA
GREECE
ARMENIA
IRAN
Aegean Sea
Sea of Crete
Rhodes
Lake Urmia
Lake Van
Van
Tuz Gölü
TURKEY
IRAQ
SYRIA
CYPRUS
LEBANON
ISRAEL
JORDAN
Mediterranean Sea
Gulf of Antalya
Gulf of Iskenderun
Bosporus
Sea of Marmara
Edirne
Kirklareli
Tekirdağ
Istanbul
Yalova
Kocaeli
Çanakkale
Bursa
Balikesir
Bartin
Zonguldak
Düzce
Sakarya
Bolu
Bilecik
Kastamonu
Karabük
Çankiri
Sinop
Samsun
Amasya
Çorum
Ordu
Tokat
Giresun
Trabzon
Rize
Artvin
Ardahan
Kars
Iğdir
Gümüşhane
Bayburt
Erzurum
Ağri
Ankara
Eskişehir
Kirikkale
Yozgat
Sivas
Erzincan
Kütahya
Kirşehir
Tunceli
Bingöl
Muş
Manisa
Uşak
Afyonkarahisar
Nevşehir
Kayseri
Elaziğ
Bitlis
Izmir
Aksaray
Malatya
Aydin
Denizli
Konya
Niğde
Diyarbakir
Batman
Siirt
Isparta
Adiyaman
Sirnak
Hakkari
Burdur
Kahramanmaraş
Mardin
Muğla
Karaman
Osmaniye
Gaziantep
Sanliurfa
Antalya
Içel (Mersin)
Adana
Kilis
Hatay (Antioch)
Bosphorus Strait
TURKEY
Sea of Marmara
Dardanelles Strait

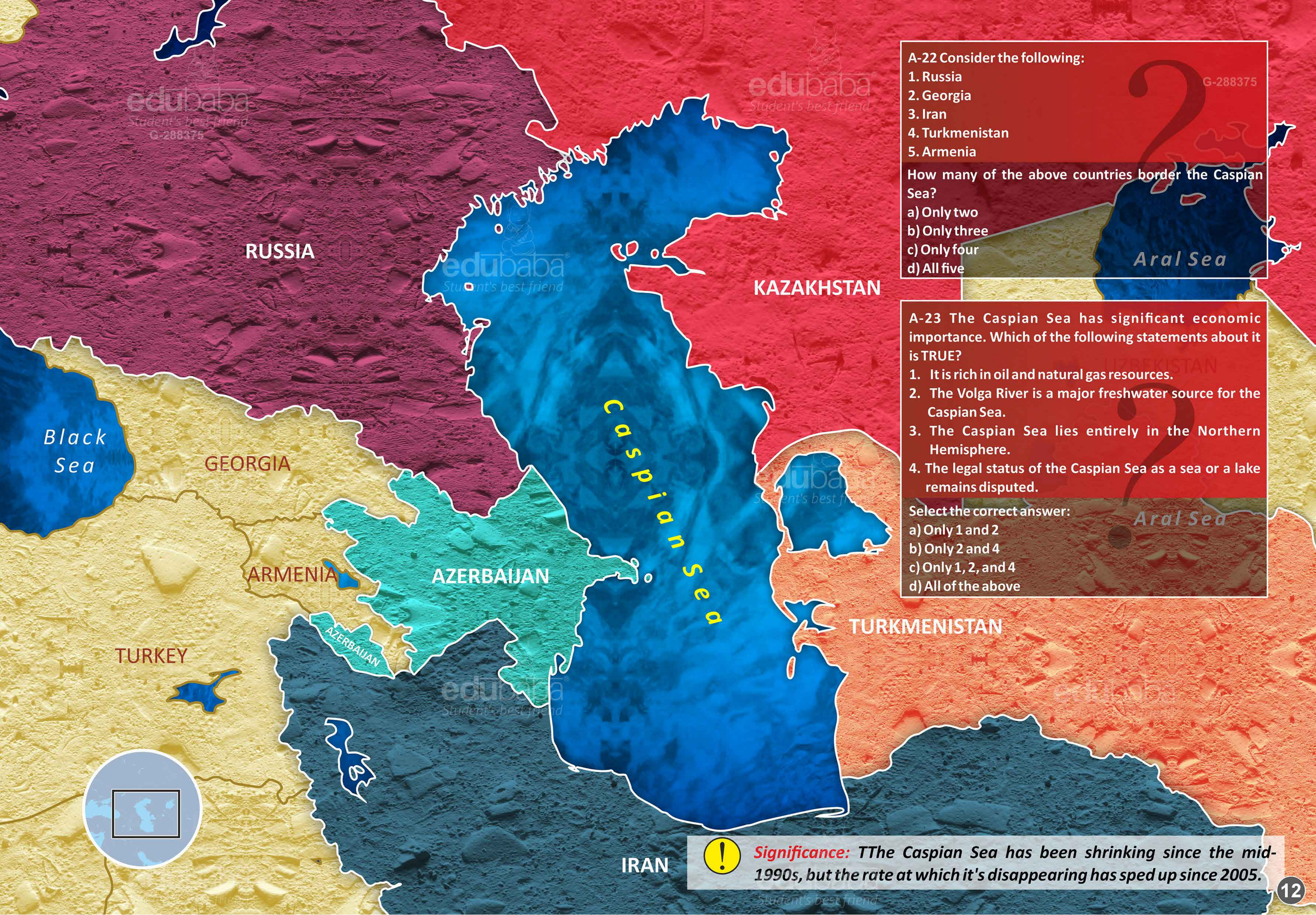
A-21 Consider the following statements:

1. It is a transcontinental country located at the crossroads of Europe and Asia.
2. It is bordered by eight countries.
3. It has coasts on both the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

Which of the following countries fits the description above?

a) Greece
b) Armenia
c) Turkey
d) Azerbaijan

Significance: ***Turkiye strikes Kurdish militant targets in Iraq and Syria.***


RUSSIA
KAZAKHSTAN
Aral Sea
UZBEKISTAN
Caspian Sea
Black Sea
GEORGIA
ARMENIA
AZERBAIJAN
AZERBAIJAN
TURKEY
TURKMENISTAN
IRAN

A-22 Consider the following:

1. Russia
2. Georgia
3. Iran
4. Turkmenistan
5. Armenia

How many of the above countries border the Caspian Sea?

a) Only two
b) Only three
c) Only four
d) All five

A-23 The Caspian Sea has significant economic importance. Which of the following statements about it is TRUE?

1. It is rich in oil and natural gas resources.
2. The Volga River is a major freshwater source for the Caspian Sea.
3. The Caspian Sea lies entirely in the Northern Hemisphere.
4. The legal status of the Caspian Sea as a sea or a lake remains disputed.

Select the correct answer:

a) Only 1 and 2
b) Only 2 and 4
c) Only 1, 2, and 4
d) All of the above

! ***Significance:*** *TThe Caspian Sea has been shrinking since the mid-1990s, but the rate at which it's disappearing has sped up since 2005.*

A-24 Consider the following statements about Azerbaijan's political borders:

1. Azerbaijan has a coastline along the Caspian Sea.
2. The Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic is an exclave of Azerbaijan, separated by Armenia.
3. The capital city of Azerbaijan is Baku.
4. Azerbaijan is a member of the United Nations.

Which of the following is/are correct?

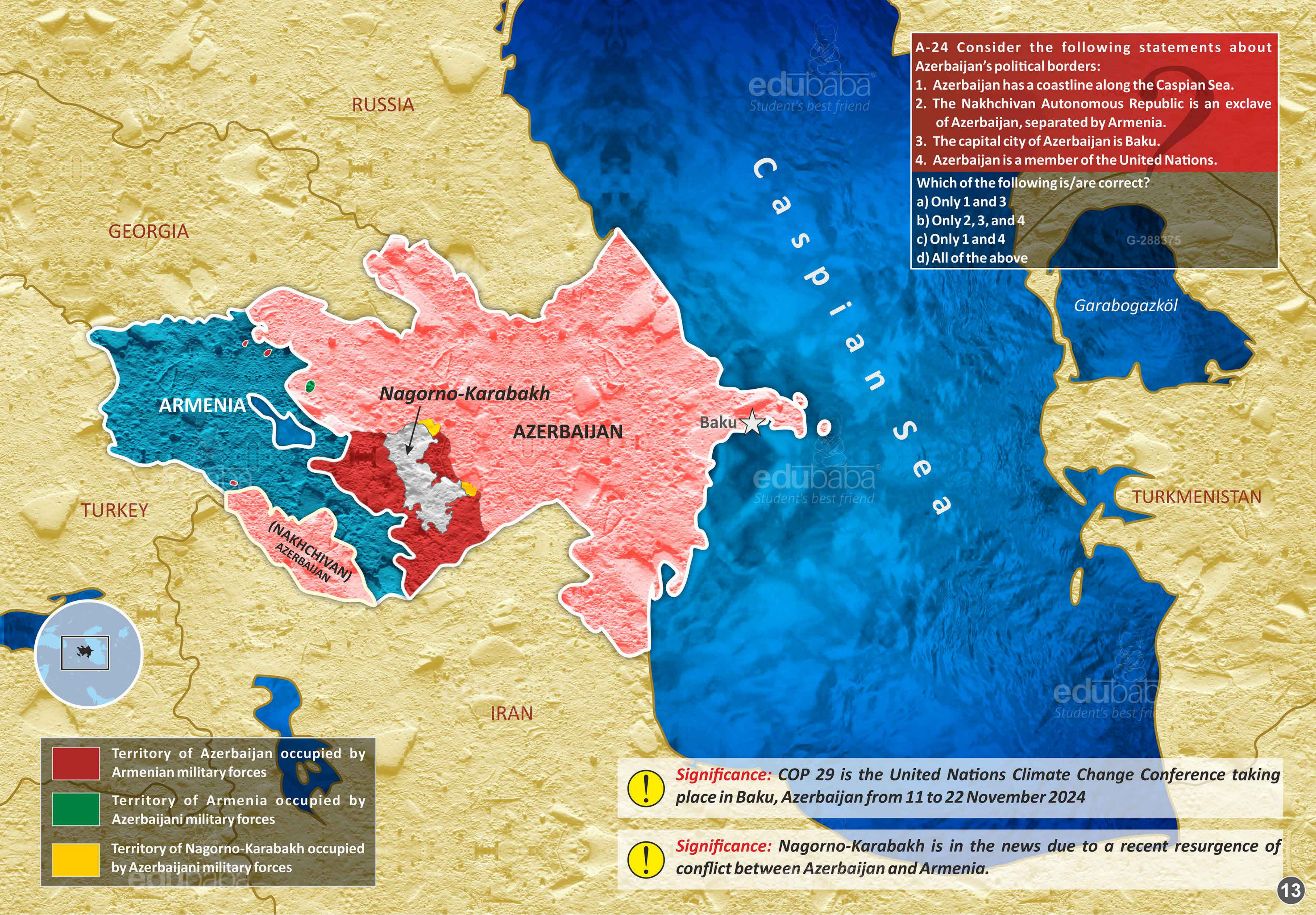
a) Only 1 and 3

b) Only 2, 3, and 4

c) Only 1 and 4

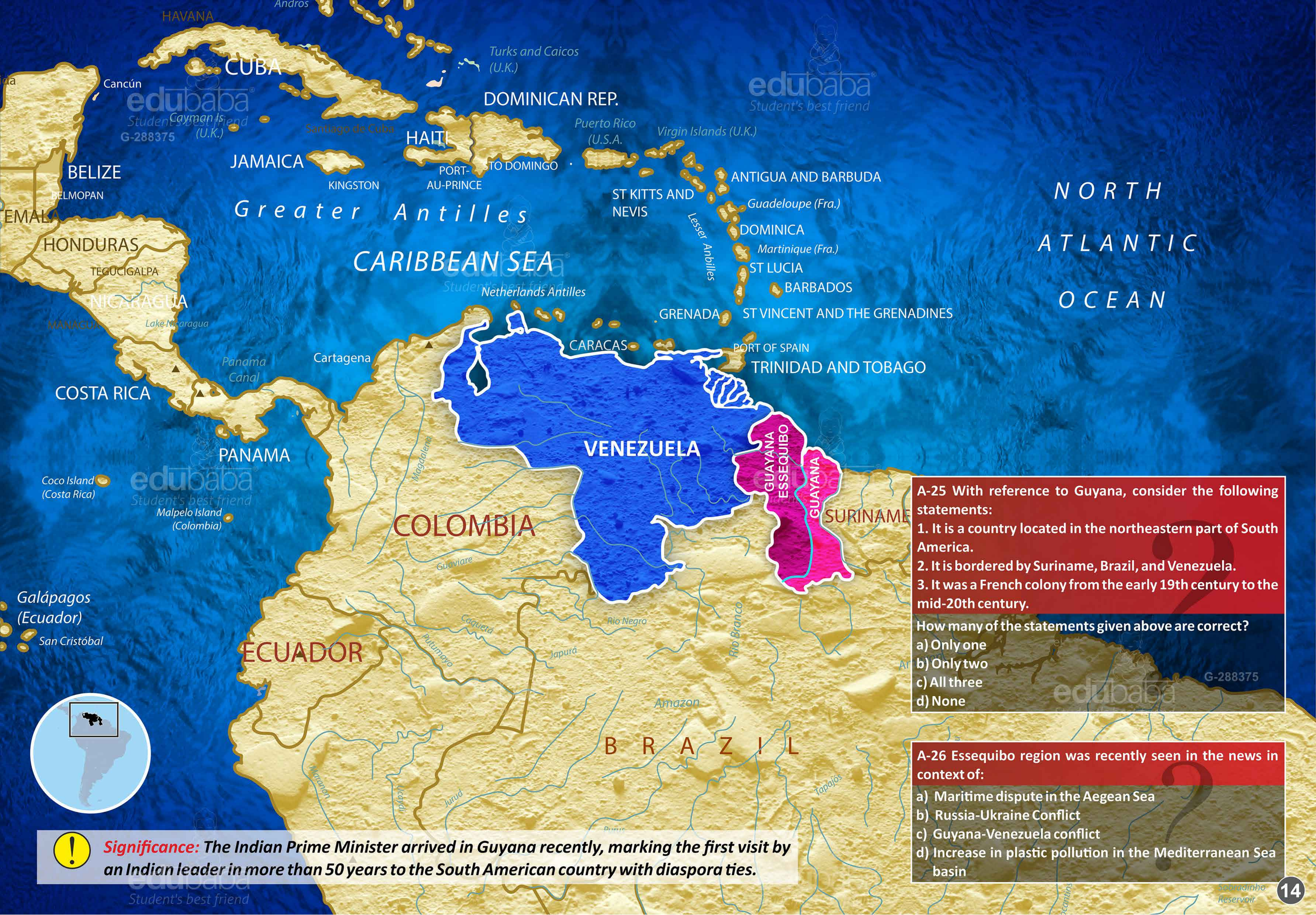
d) All of the above

G-288375


RUSSIA
GEORGIA
ARMENIA
Nagorno-Karabakh
AZERBAIJAN
Baku
Caspian Sea
Garabogazköl
TURKMENISTAN
TURKEY
(NAKHCHIVAN) AZERBAIJAN
IRAN
🟥 Territory of Azerbaijan occupied by Armenian military forces
🟩 Territory of Armenia occupied by Azerbaijani military forces
🟨 Territory of Nagorno-Karabakh occupied by Azerbaijani military forces

! ***Significance:*** *COP 29 is the United Nations Climate Change Conference taking place in Baku, Azerbaijan from 11 to 22 November 2024*

! ***Significance:*** *Nagorno-Karabakh is in the news due to a recent resurgence of conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia.*


HAVANA
Andros
CUBA
Cancún
Cayman Is. (U.K.)
Santiago de Cuba
Turks and Caicos (U.K.)
DOMINICAN REP.
HAITI
JAMAICA
KINGSTON
PORT-AU-PRINCE
SANTO DOMINGO
Puerto Rico (U.S.A.)
Virgin Islands (U.K.)
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
ST KITTS AND NEVIS
Guadeloupe (Fra.)
DOMINICA
Martinique (Fra.)
ST LUCIA
BARBADOS
Lesser Antilles
GRENADA
ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES
PORT OF SPAIN
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN
BELIZE
BELMOPAN
GUATEMALA
HONDURAS
TEGUCIGALPA
NICARAGUA
MANAGUA
Lake Nicaragua
Greater Antilles
CARIBBEAN SEA
Netherlands Antilles
CARACAS
Cartagena
Panama Canal
COSTA RICA
PANAMA
Coco Island (Costa Rica)
Malpelo Island (Colombia)
VENEZUELA
GUAYANA ESSEQUIBO
GUAYANA
SURINAME
COLOMBIA
Magdalena
Guaviare
Galápagos (Ecuador)
San Cristóbal
ECUADOR
Caquetá
Putumayo
Japurá
Rio Negro
Rio Branco
Amazon
BRAZIL
Marañon
Juruá
Tapajós
Purus
Sobradinho Reservoir

A-25 With reference to Guyana, consider the following statements:

1. It is a country located in the northeastern part of South America.

2. It is bordered by Suriname, Brazil, and Venezuela.

3. It was a French colony from the early 19th century to the mid-20th century.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

a) Only one

b) Only two

c) All three

d) None

A-26 Essequibo region was recently seen in the news in context of:

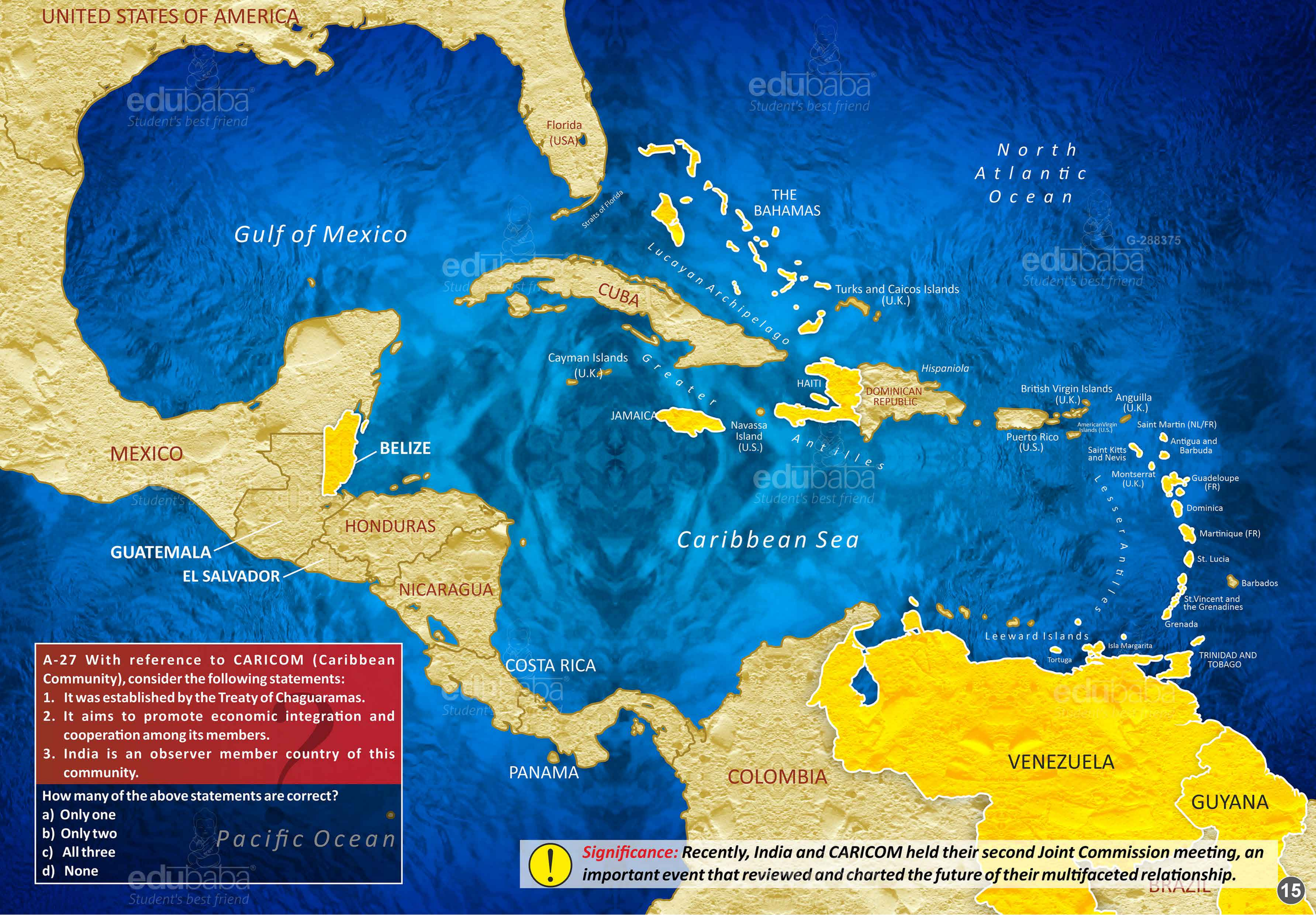
a) Maritime dispute in the Aegean Sea

b) Russia-Ukraine Conflict

c) Guyana-Venezuela conflict

d) Increase in plastic pollution in the Mediterranean Sea basin

! ***Significance:* *The Indian Prime Minister arrived in Guyana recently, marking the first visit by an Indian leader in more than 50 years to the South American country with diaspora ties.***


UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Florida
(USA)
Gulf of Mexico
Straits of Florida
North Atlantic Ocean
THE BAHAMAS
Lucayan Archipelago
Turks and Caicos Islands
(U.K.)
CUBA
Cayman Islands
(U.K.)
Greater Antilles
JAMAICA
Navassa
Island
(U.S.)
HAITI
DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC
Hispaniola
British Virgin Islands
(U.K.)
Anguilla
(U.K.)
AmericanVirgin
Islands (U.S.)
Saint Martin (NL/FR)
Puerto Rico
(U.S.)
Antigua and
Barbuda
Saint Kitts
and Nevis
Montserrat
(U.K.)
Guadeloupe
(FR)
Dominica
Martinique (FR)
St. Lucia
Barbados
St.Vincent and
the Grenadines
Grenada
Lesser Antilles
Leeward Islands
Isla Margarita
Tortuga
TRINIDAD AND
TOBAGO
MEXICO
BELIZE
GUATEMALA
EL SALVADOR
HONDURAS
NICARAGUA
COSTA RICA
PANAMA
Caribbean Sea
COLOMBIA
VENEZUELA
GUYANA
BRAZIL
Pacific Ocean

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G-288375

A-27 With reference to CARICOM (Caribbean Community), consider the following statements:

1. It was established by the Treaty of Chaguaramas.
2. It aims to promote economic integration and cooperation among its members.
3. India is an observer member country of this community.

How many of the above statements are correct?

a) Only one
b) Only two
c) All three
d) None

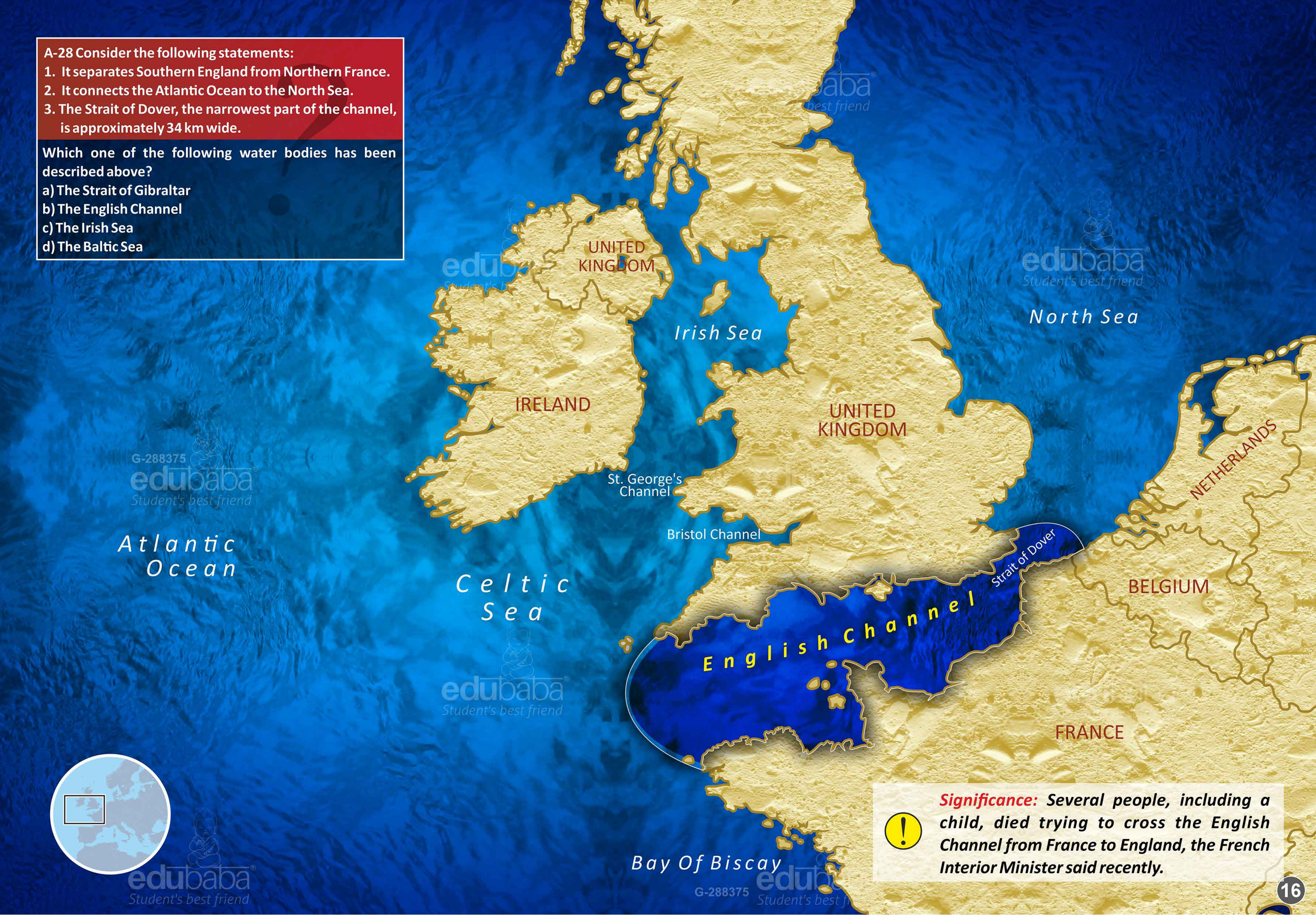
Significance: ***Recently, India and CARICOM held their second Joint Commission meeting, an important event that reviewed and charted the future of their multifaceted relationship.***

A-28 Consider the following statements:

1. It separates Southern England from Northern France.
2. It connects the Atlantic Ocean to the North Sea.
3. The Strait of Dover, the narrowest part of the channel, is approximately 34 km wide.

Which one of the following water bodies has been described above?

a) The Strait of Gibraltar
b) The English Channel
c) The Irish Sea
d) The Baltic Sea


UNITED KINGDOM
Irish Sea
North Sea
IRELAND
UNITED KINGDOM
NETHERLANDS
St. George's Channel
Bristol Channel
Atlantic Ocean
Strait of Dover
Celtic Sea
BELGIUM
English Channel
FRANCE
Bay Of Biscay

Significance: *Several people, including a child, died trying to cross the English Channel from France to England, the French Interior Minister said recently.*

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A-29 Consider the following:

1. Germany
2. Russia
3. United Kingdom
4. Sweden
5. Poland

How many of the above countries border the Baltic Sea?

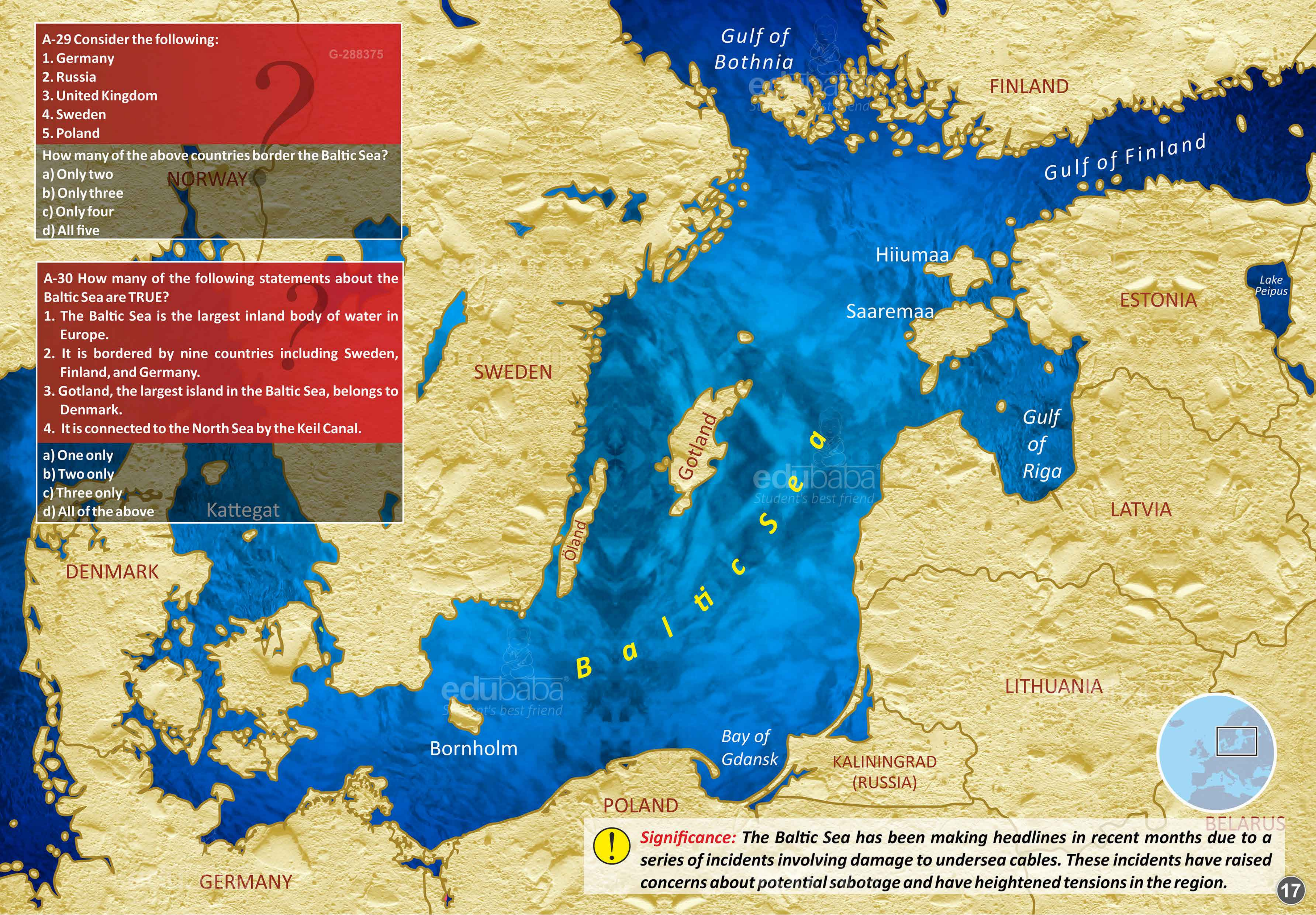
a) Only two
b) Only three
c) Only four
d) All five

G-288375

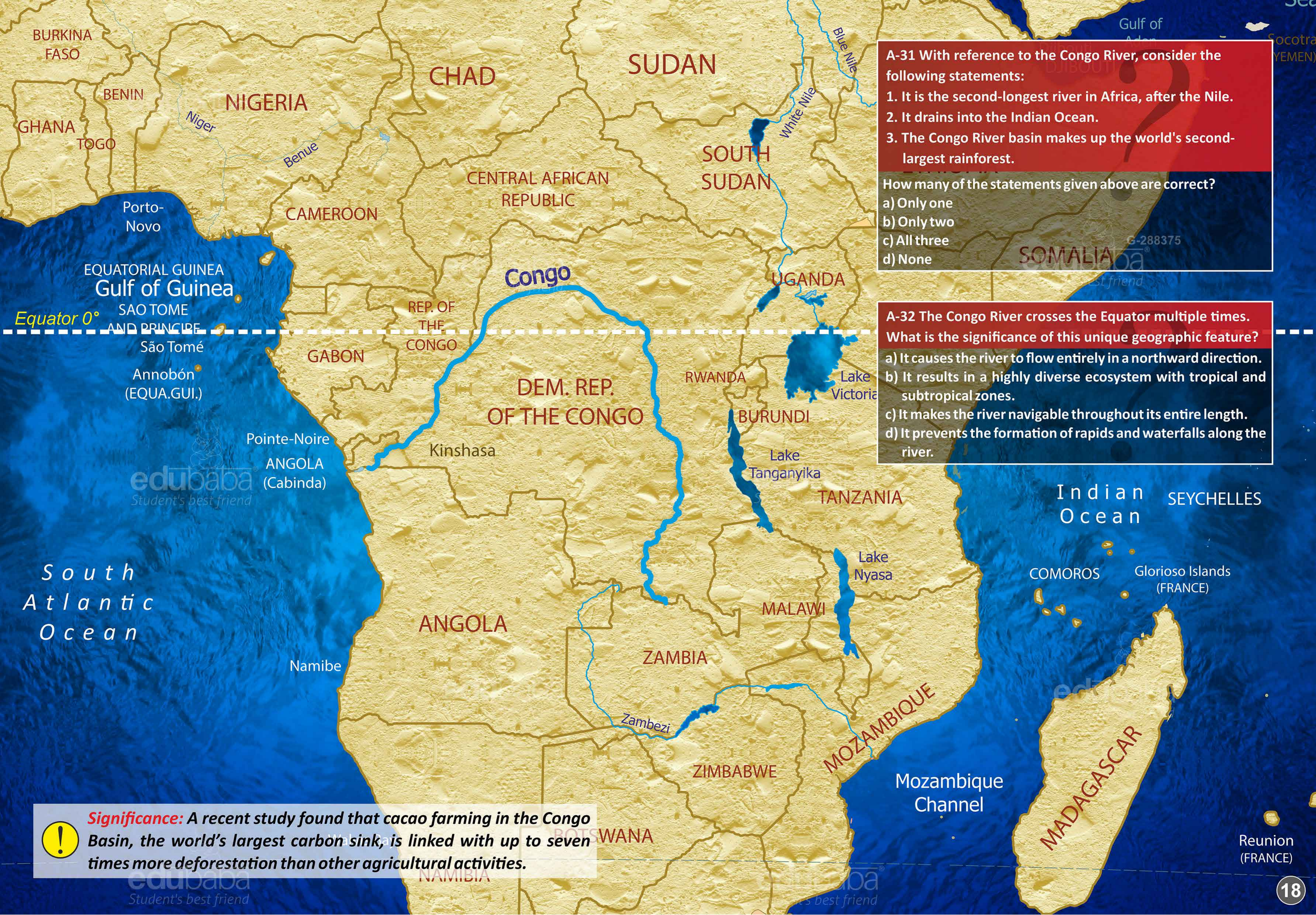
A-30 How many of the following statements about the Baltic Sea are TRUE?

1. The Baltic Sea is the largest inland body of water in Europe.
2. It is bordered by nine countries including Sweden, Finland, and Germany.
3. Gotland, the largest island in the Baltic Sea, belongs to Denmark.
4. It is connected to the North Sea by the Keil Canal.

a) One only
b) Two only
c) Three only
d) All of the above


Gulf of Bothnia
FINLAND
Gulf of Finland
NORWAY
Hiiumaa
Lake Peipus
ESTONIA
Saaremaa
SWEDEN
Gulf of Riga
Gotland
Baltic Sea
LATVIA
Kattegat
Öland
DENMARK
LITHUANIA
Bornholm
Bay of Gdansk
KALININGRAD (RUSSIA)
POLAND
BELARUS
GERMANY

***Significance:** The Baltic Sea has been making headlines in recent months due to a series of incidents involving damage to undersea cables. These incidents have raised concerns about potential sabotage and have heightened tensions in the region.*


BURKINA FASO
BENIN
GHANA
TOGO
NIGERIA
Niger
Benue
CHAD
SUDAN
Blue Nile
White Nile
SOUTH SUDAN
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
CAMEROON
Porto-Novo
EQUATORIAL GUINEA
Gulf of Guinea
Equator 0°
SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE
São Tomé
Annobón (EQUA.GUI.)
GABON
REP. OF THE CONGO
Congo
DEM. REP. OF THE CONGO
Kinshasa
Pointe-Noire
ANGOLA (Cabinda)
UGANDA
RWANDA
BURUNDI
Lake Victoria
Lake Tanganyika
TANZANIA
Lake Nyasa
MALAWI
ANGOLA
ZAMBIA
Zambezi
ZIMBABWE
MOZAMBIQUE
BOTSWANA
NAMIBIA
Namibe
South Atlantic Ocean
Indian Ocean
SEYCHELLES
COMOROS
Glorioso Islands (FRANCE)
Mozambique Channel
MADAGASCAR
Reunion (FRANCE)
SOMALIA
Gulf of Aden
Socotra (YEMEN)
DJIBOUTI
ETHIOPIA

A-31 With reference to the Congo River, consider the following statements:

1. It is the second-longest river in Africa, after the Nile.
2. It drains into the Indian Ocean.
3. The Congo River basin makes up the world's second-largest rainforest.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

a) Only one
b) Only two
c) All three
d) None

G-288375

A-32 The Congo River crosses the Equator multiple times. What is the significance of this unique geographic feature?

a) It causes the river to flow entirely in a northward direction.
b) It results in a highly diverse ecosystem with tropical and subtropical zones.
c) It makes the river navigable throughout its entire length.
d) It prevents the formation of rapids and waterfalls along the river.

! *Significance: A recent study found that cacao farming in the Congo Basin, the world's largest carbon sink, is linked with up to seven times more deforestation than other agricultural activities.*

A-33 Consider the following statements with respect to the country Sudan:

1. It is located in the northeastern part of Africa
2. It is Africa's third-largest country by area.
3. Sudan has a coastline on the Red Sea.

How many of the above-given statements are correct?

a) Only one
b) Only two
c) All three
d) None

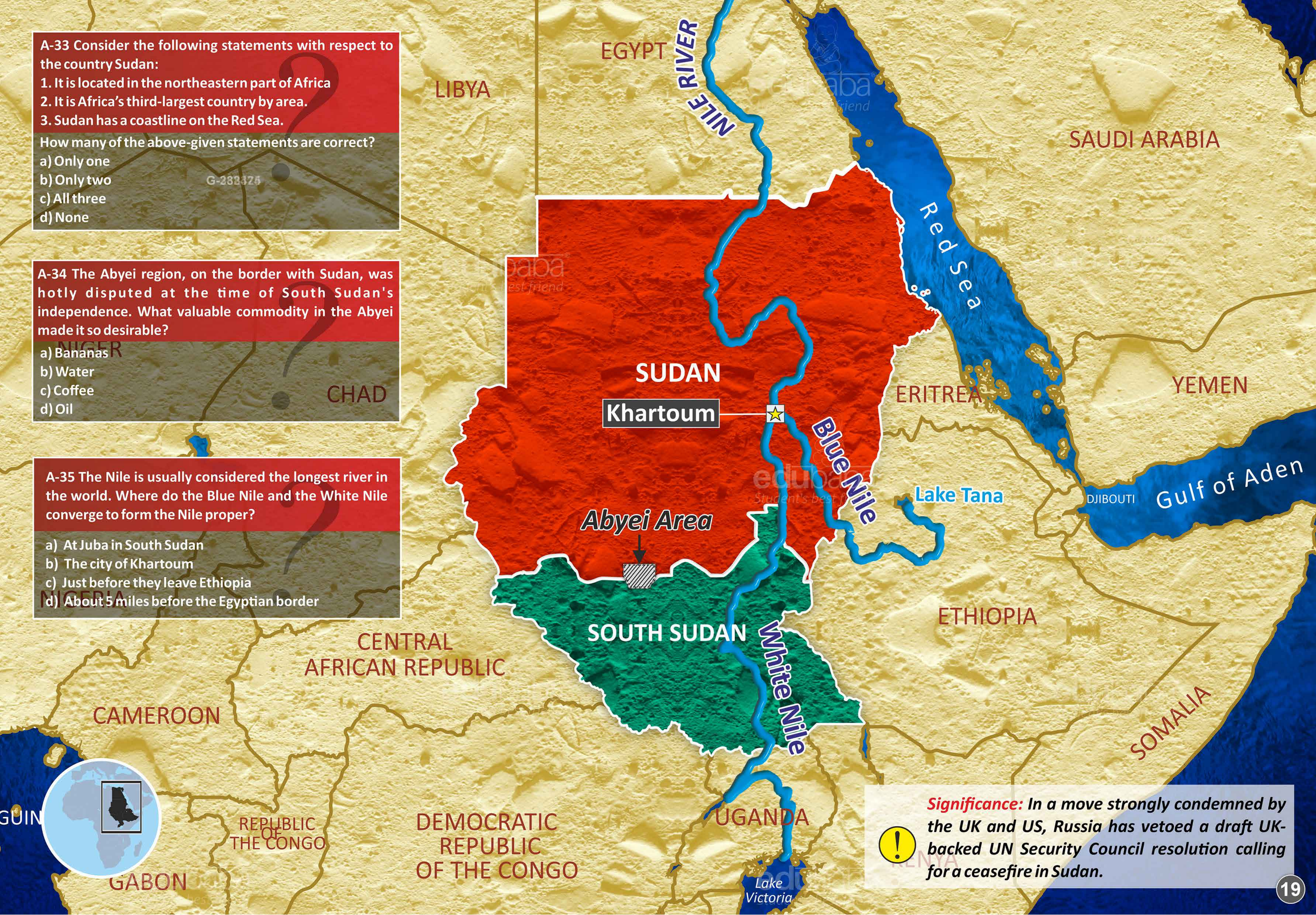
G-282425

A-34 The Abyei region, on the border with Sudan, was hotly disputed at the time of South Sudan's independence. What valuable commodity in the Abyei made it so desirable?

a) Bananas
b) Water
c) Coffee
d) Oil

A-35 The Nile is usually considered the longest river in the world. Where do the Blue Nile and the White Nile converge to form the Nile proper?

a) At Juba in South Sudan
b) The city of Khartoum
c) Just before they leave Ethiopia
d) About 5 miles before the Egyptian border


EGYPT
LIBYA
NILE RIVER
SAUDI ARABIA
Red Sea
NIGER
CHAD
SUDAN
Khartoum
ERITREA
YEMEN
Blue Nile
Lake Tana
DJIBOUTI
Gulf of Aden
Abyei Area
NIGERIA
SOUTH SUDAN
ETHIOPIA
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
White Nile
CAMEROON
SOMALIA
UGANDA
KENYA
GUIN
REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
GABON
Lake Victoria

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***Significance:** In a move strongly condemned by the UK and US, Russia has vetoed a draft UK-backed UN Security Council resolution calling for a ceasefire in Sudan.*

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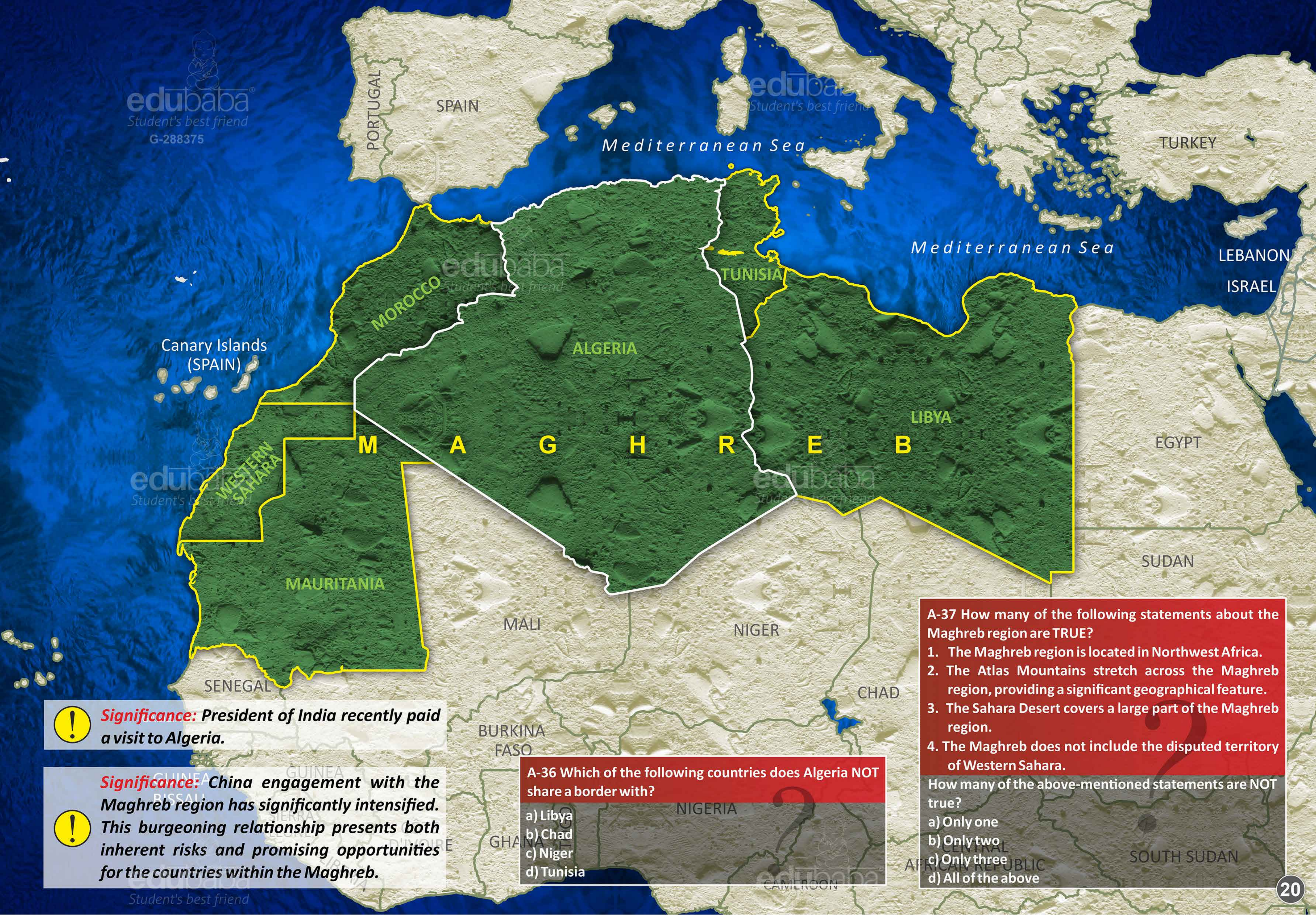

PORTUGAL
SPAIN
Mediterranean Sea
TURKEY
Mediterranean Sea
LEBANON
ISRAEL
MOROCCO
ALGERIA
TUNISIA
LIBYA
Canary Islands
(SPAIN)
WESTERN SAHARA
M A G H R E B
EGYPT
MAURITANIA
SUDAN
MALI
NIGER
CHAD
SENEGAL
BURKINA FASO
GUINEA
GUINEA BISSAU
SIERRA LEONE
NIGERIA
GHANA
CÔTE D'IVOIRE
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
CAMEROON
SOUTH SUDAN

Significance: ***President of India recently paid a visit to Algeria.***

Significance: ***China engagement with the Maghreb region has significantly intensified. This burgeoning relationship presents both inherent risks and promising opportunities for the countries within the Maghreb.***

A-36 Which of the following countries does Algeria NOT share a border with?

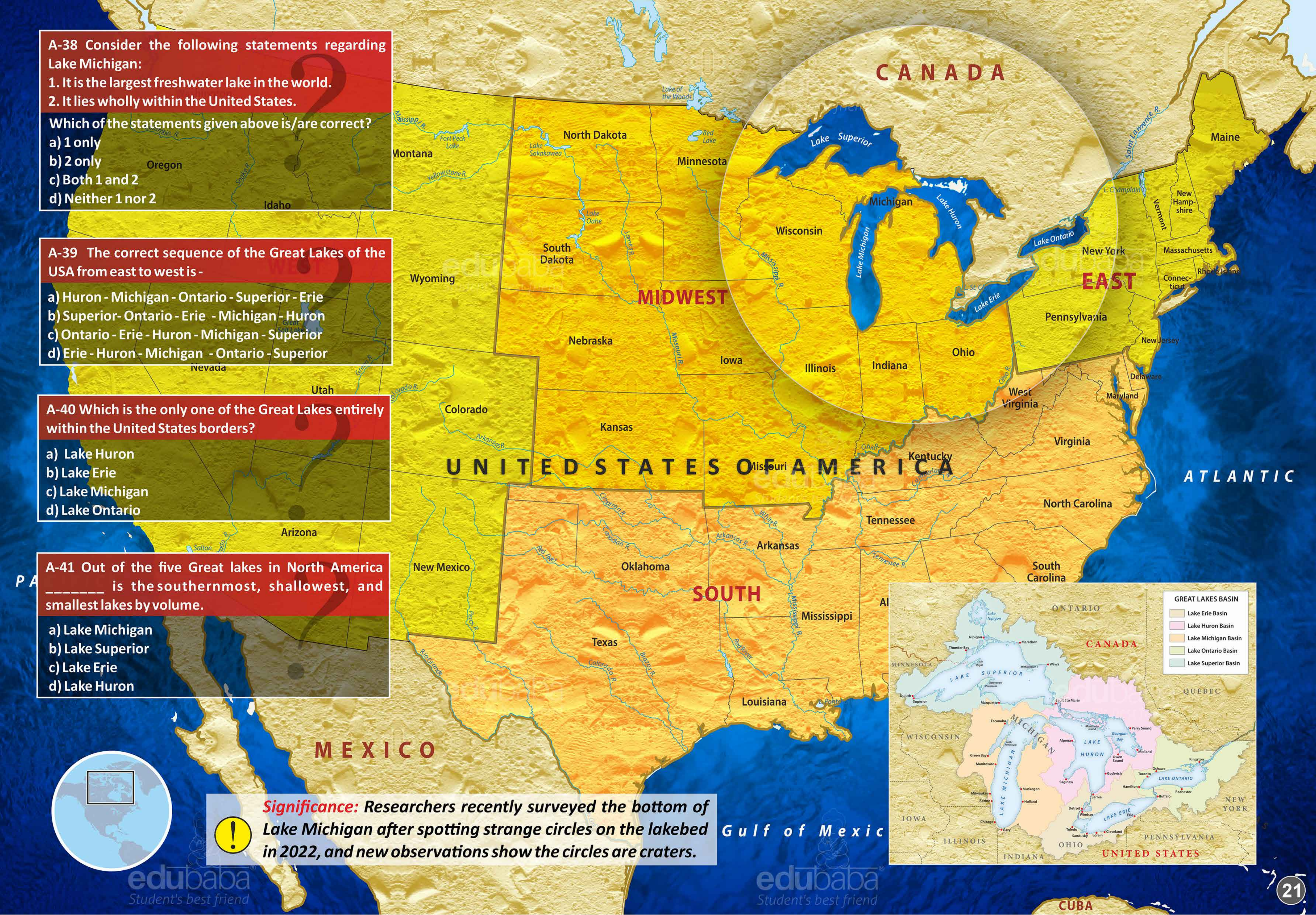
a) Libya
b) Chad
c) Niger
d) Tunisia

A-37 How many of the following statements about the Maghreb region are TRUE?

1. The Maghreb region is located in Northwest Africa.
2. The Atlas Mountains stretch across the Maghreb region, providing a significant geographical feature.
3. The Sahara Desert covers a large part of the Maghreb region.
4. The Maghreb does not include the disputed territory of Western Sahara.

How many of the above-mentioned statements are NOT true?

a) Only one
b) Only two
c) Only three
d) All of the above


CANADA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
MEXICO
MIDWEST
EAST
SOUTH
WEST
ATLANTIC
PA
Gulf of Mexic
CUBA
Lake Superior
Lake Michigan
Lake Huron
Lake Erie
Lake Ontario
Lake of the Woods
Red Lake
Fort Peck Lake
Lake Sakakawea
Lake Oahe
Great Salt Lake
Salton
L. Champlain
Saint Lawrence R.
Mississippi R.
Missouri R.
Ohio R.
Yellowstone R.
Snake R.
Colorado R.
Arkansas R.
Canadian R.
Red River
Brazos R.
Pecos R.
Rio Grande
Tennessee R.
White R.
James R.
Cimarron R.
Green R.
Montana
North Dakota
Minnesota
Oregon
Idaho
Wyoming
South Dakota
Wisconsin
Michigan
Nevada
Utah
Colorado
Nebraska
Iowa
Illinois
Indiana
Ohio
Kansas
Missouri
Kentucky
West Virginia
Virginia
Pennsylvania
New York
Maine
Vermont
New Hampshire
Massachusetts
Rhode Island
Connecticut
New Jersey
Delaware
Maryland
North Carolina
Tennessee
Arizona
New Mexico
Oklahoma
Arkansas
Texas
Louisiana
Mississippi
South Carolina
GREAT LAKES BASIN
Lake Erie Basin
Lake Huron Basin
Lake Michigan Basin
Lake Ontario Basin
Lake Superior Basin
ONTARIO
QUÉBEC
MINNESOTA
WISCONSIN
IOWA
ILLINOIS
INDIANA
OHIO
PENNSYLVANIA
NEW YORK
UNITED STATES
Lake Nipigon
Nipigon
Thunder Bay
Marathon
Wawa
Duluth
Superior
Marquette
Sault Ste Marie
Escanaba
Green Bay
Manitowoc
Milwaukee
Racine
Chicago
Gary
Muskegon
Holland
Alpena
Saginaw
Sarnia
Detroit
Windsor
Toledo
Sandusky
Lorain
Cleveland
Erie
Buffalo
Rochester
Hamilton
Toronto
Oshawa
Kingston
Midland
Parry Sound
Owen Sound
Goderich
Georgian Bay

A-38 Consider the following statements regarding Lake Michigan:

1. It is the largest freshwater lake in the world.
2. It lies wholly within the United States.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

A-39 The correct sequence of the Great Lakes of the USA from east to west is -

a) Huron - Michigan - Ontario - Superior - Erie
b) Superior- Ontario - Erie - Michigan - Huron
c) Ontario - Erie - Huron - Michigan - Superior
d) Erie - Huron - Michigan - Ontario - Superior

A-40 Which is the only one of the Great Lakes entirely within the United States borders?

a) Lake Huron
b) Lake Erie
c) Lake Michigan
d) Lake Ontario

A-41 Out of the five Great lakes in North America _______ is the southernmost, shallowest, and smallest lakes by volume.

a) Lake Michigan
b) Lake Superior
c) Lake Erie
d) Lake Huron

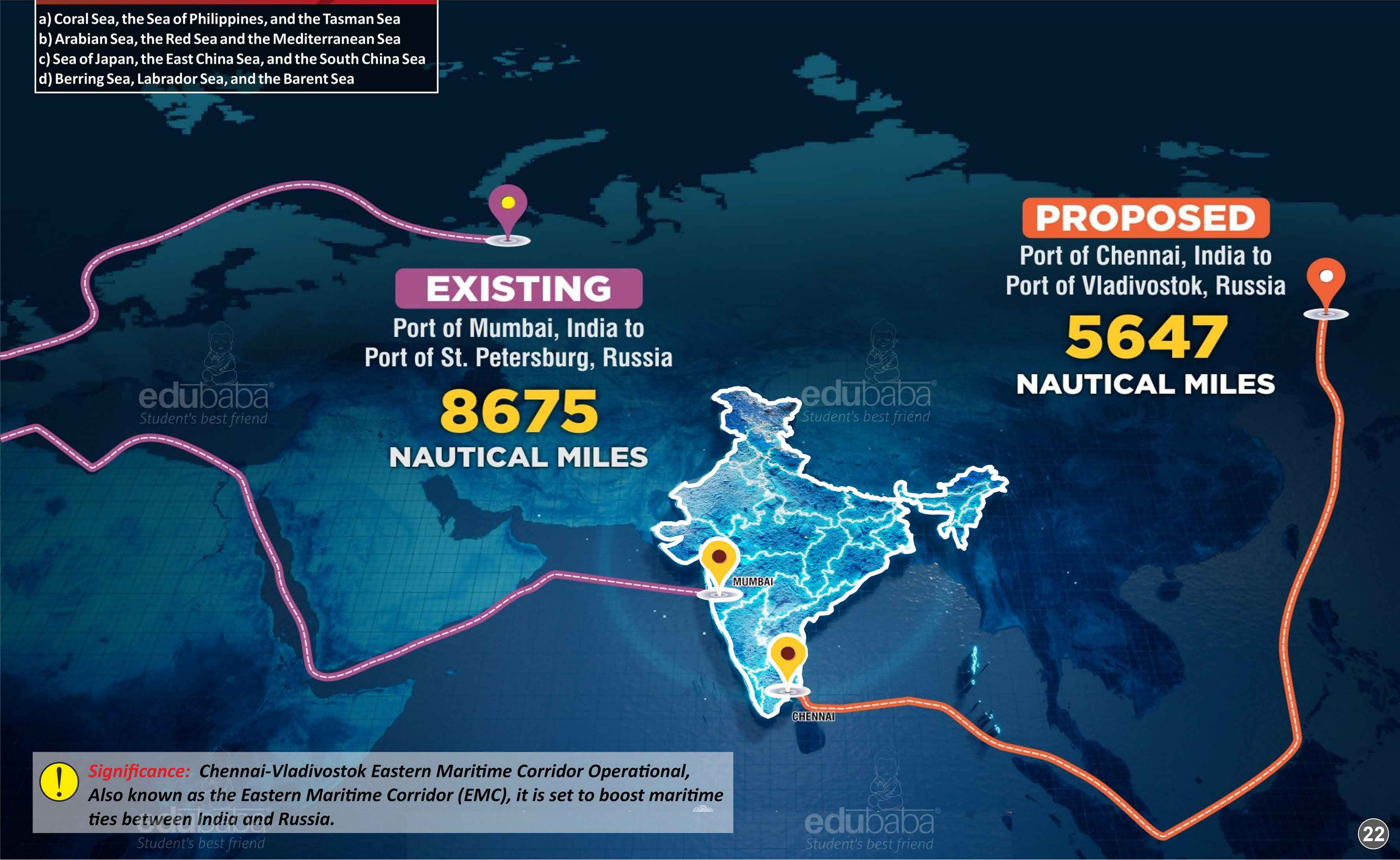
! ***Significance:*** ***Researchers recently surveyed the bottom of Lake Michigan after spotting strange circles on the lakebed in 2022, and new observations show the circles are craters.***

Eastern Maritime Corridor (EMC)

G-288375

A-42 The proposed Eastern Maritime Corridor (EMC) is expected to reduce the travel time between India and Russia. Which of the following seas will the corridor be expected to pass through?

- a) Coral Sea, the Sea of Philippines, and the Tasman Sea
- b) Arabian Sea, the Red Sea and the Mediterranean Sea
- c) Sea of Japan, the East China Sea, and the South China Sea
- d) Berring Sea, Labrador Sea, and the Barent Sea



EXISTING

Port of Mumbai, India to
Port of St. Petersburg, Russia

8675

NAUTICAL MILES

PROPOSED

Port of Chennai, India to
Port of Vladivostok, Russia

5647

NAUTICAL MILES

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! *Significance: Chennai-Vladivostok Eastern Maritime Corridor Operational, Also known as the Eastern Maritime Corridor (EMC), it is set to boost maritime ties between India and Russia.*

G-288375

B-1 Consider the following countries:

1. Montenegro
2. Malta
3. Albania
4. Algeria
5. Niger
6. Austria
7. Cameroon

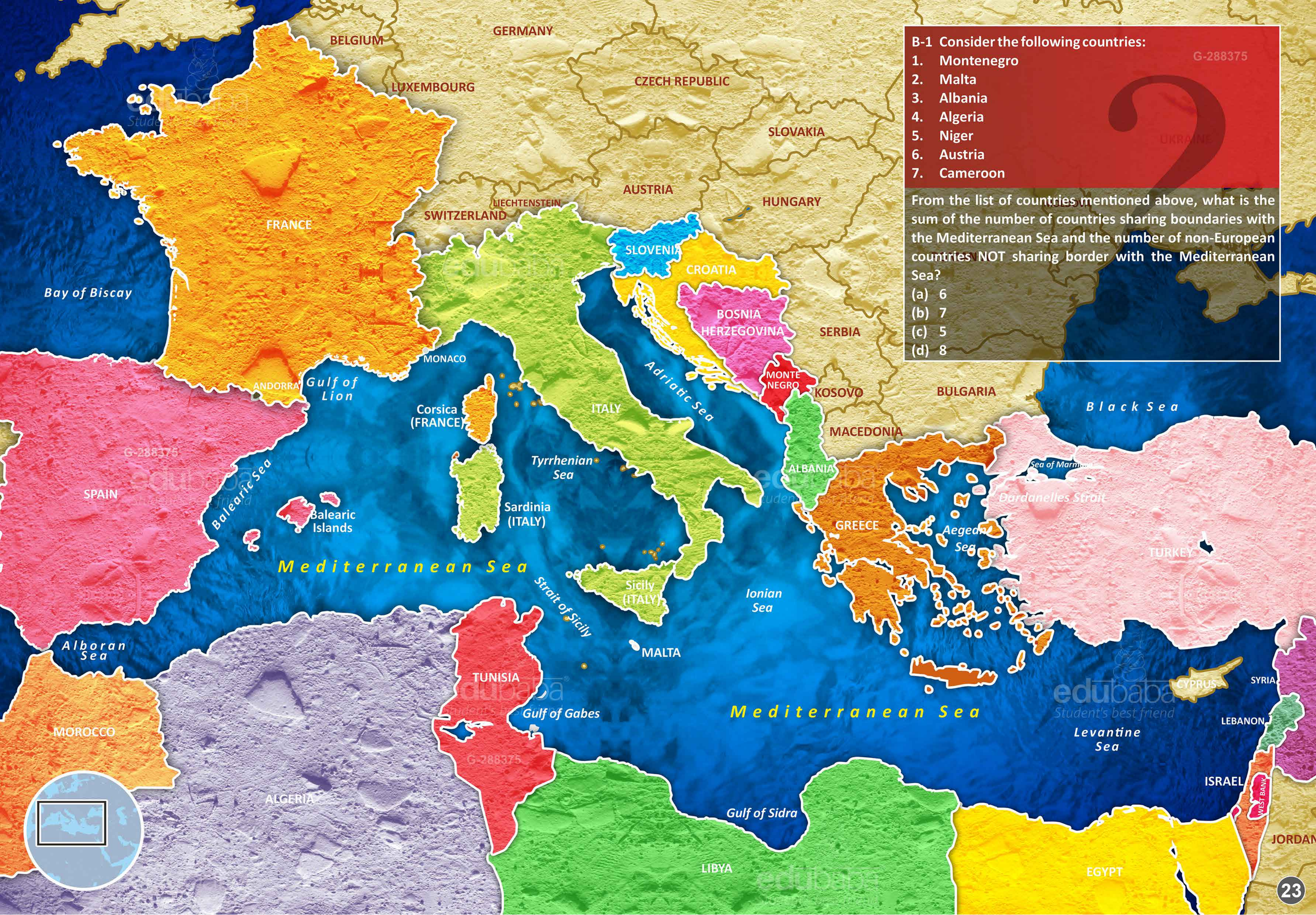
From the list of countries mentioned above, what is the sum of the number of countries sharing boundaries with the Mediterranean Sea and the number of non-European countries NOT sharing border with the Mediterranean Sea?

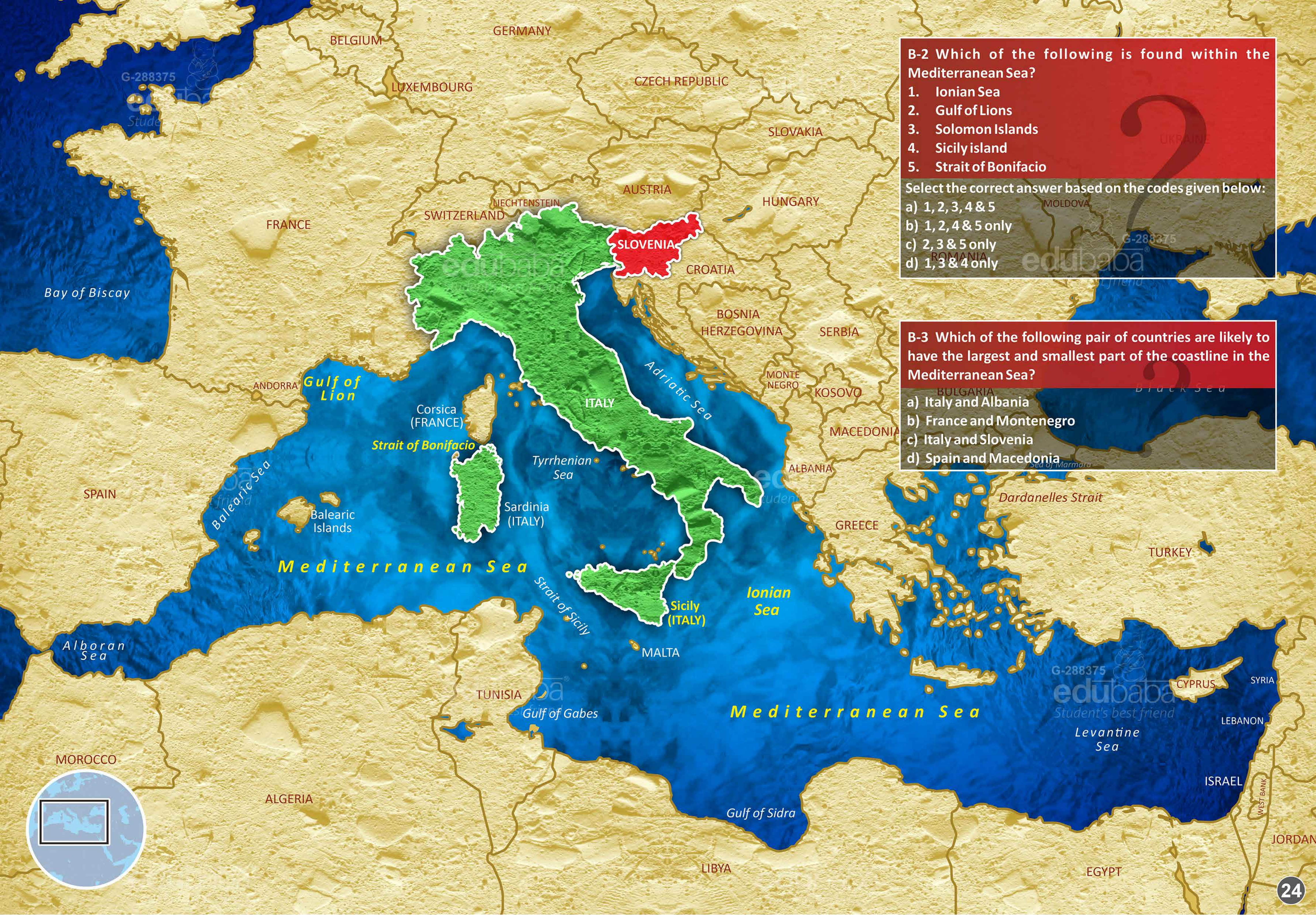
(a) 6

(b) 7

(c) 5

(d) 8


BELGIUM
GERMANY
LUXEMBOURG
CZECH REPUBLIC
SLOVAKIA
UKRAINE
AUSTRIA
HUNGARY
LIECHTENSTEIN
SWITZERLAND
FRANCE
SLOVENIA
CROATIA
BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA
SERBIA
Bay of Biscay
MONACO
ANDORRA
Gulf of Lion
MONTE NEGRO
KOSOVO
BULGARIA
Black Sea
Corsica (FRANCE)
ITALY
Adriatic Sea
MACEDONIA
ALBANIA
Sea of Marmara
Dardanelles Strait
Tyrrhenian Sea
SPAIN
Balearic Sea
Balearic Islands
Sardinia (ITALY)
GREECE
Aegean Sea
TURKEY
Mediterranean Sea
Strait of Sicily
Sicily (ITALY)
Ionian Sea
Alboran Sea
MALTA
TUNISIA
CYPRUS
SYRIA
Gulf of Gabes
Mediterranean Sea
LEBANON
MOROCCO
Levantine Sea
ALGERIA
ISRAEL
WEST BANK
Gulf of Sidra
JORDAN
LIBYA
EGYPT


GERMANY
BELGIUM
LUXEMBOURG
CZECH REPUBLIC
SLOVAKIA
UKRAINE
MOLDOVA
ROMANIA
AUSTRIA
HUNGARY
LIECHTENSTEIN
SWITZERLAND
FRANCE
SLOVENIA
CROATIA
Bay of Biscay
BOSNIA
HERZEGOVINA
SERBIA
MONTE NEGRO
KOSOVO
BULGARIA
Black Sea
MACEDONIA
ALBANIA
Sea of Marmara
Dardanelles Strait
ANDORRA
Gulf of Lion
Corsica (FRANCE)
Strait of Bonifacio
ITALY
Adriatic Sea
Tyrrhenian Sea
Balearic Sea
SPAIN
Balearic Islands
Sardinia (ITALY)
GREECE
TURKEY
Mediterranean Sea
Strait of Sicily
Sicily (ITALY)
Ionian Sea
MALTA
Alboran Sea
TUNISIA
Gulf of Gabes
Mediterranean Sea
CYPRUS
SYRIA
LEBANON
Levantine Sea
ISRAEL
WEST BANK
JORDAN
MOROCCO
ALGERIA
Gulf of Sidra
LIBYA
EGYPT

B-2 Which of the following is found within the Mediterranean Sea?

1. Ionian Sea
2. Gulf of Lions
3. Solomon Islands
4. Sicily island
5. Strait of Bonifacio

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

a) 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5
b) 1, 2, 4 & 5 only
c) 2, 3 & 5 only
d) 1, 3 & 4 only

B-3 Which of the following pair of countries are likely to have the largest and smallest part of the coastline in the Mediterranean Sea?

a) Italy and Albania
b) France and Montenegro
c) Italy and Slovenia
d) Spain and Macedonia

B-4 Which of the following is/ are NOT correct regarding the Mediterranean Sea?

1. The Persian Gulf opens into the Mediterranean Sea through the Suez Canal.
2. The Mediterranean Sea opens into the Sea of Marmara through the Bosphorus Strait.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

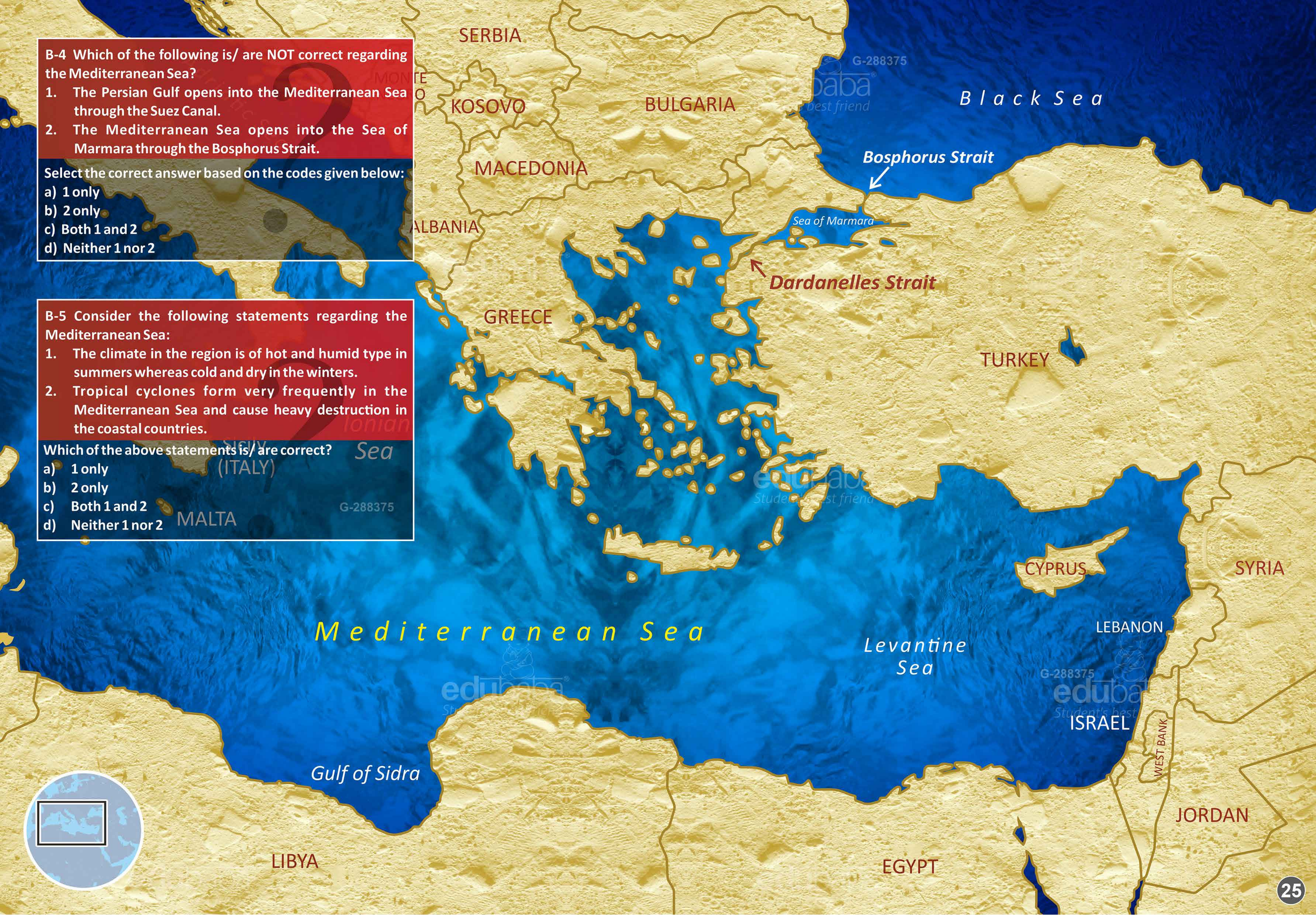
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-5 Consider the following statements regarding the Mediterranean Sea:

1. The climate in the region is of hot and humid type in summers whereas cold and dry in the winters.
2. Tropical cyclones form very frequently in the Mediterranean Sea and cause heavy destruction in the coastal countries.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

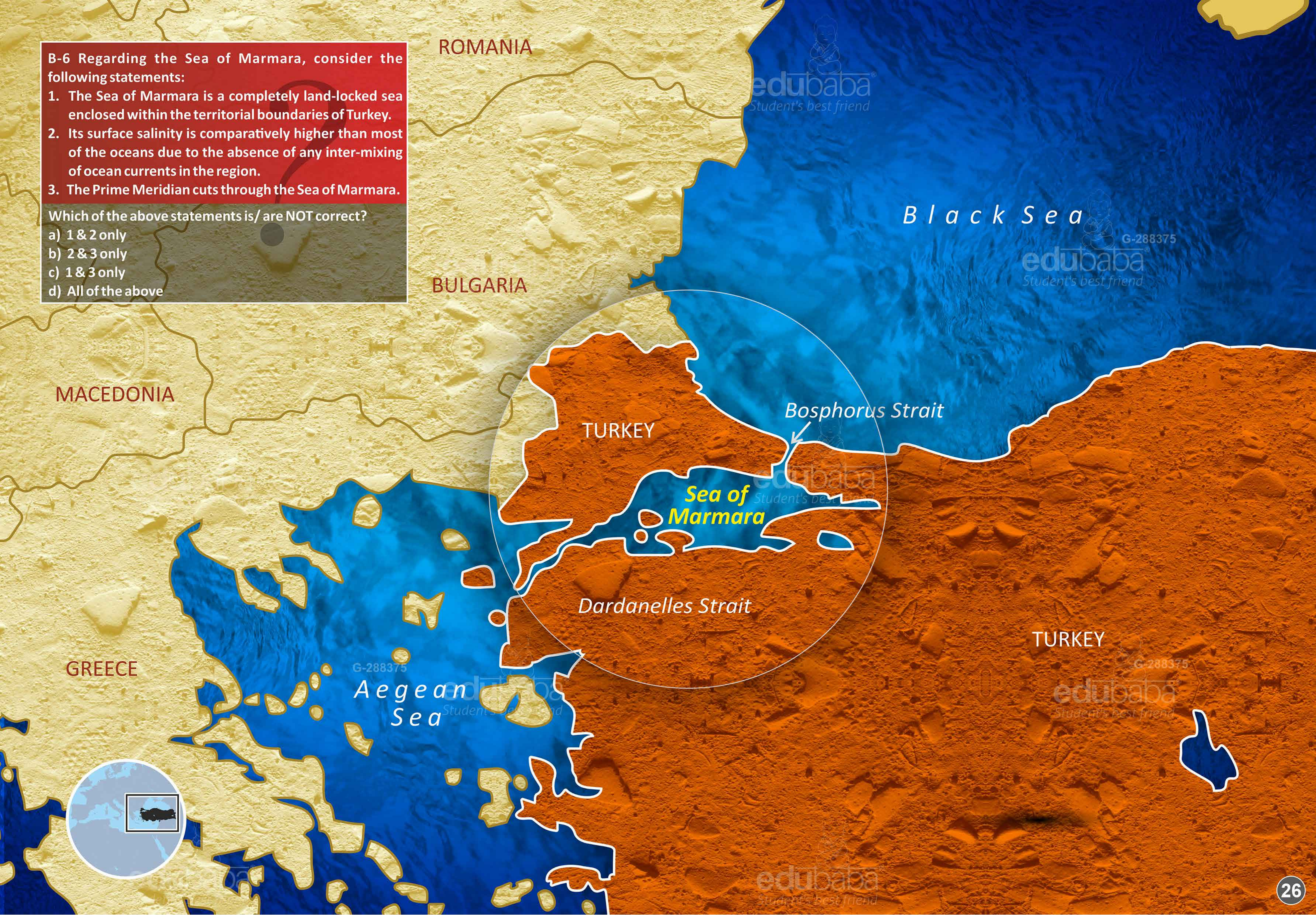

SERBIA
KOSOVO
BULGARIA
MACEDONIA
ALBANIA
Black Sea
Bosphorus Strait
Sea of Marmara
Dardanelles Strait
GREECE
TURKEY
Ionian Sea
Sicily (ITALY)
MALTA
CYPRUS
SYRIA
LEBANON
Mediterranean Sea
Levantine Sea
ISRAEL
WEST BANK
JORDAN
Gulf of Sidra
LIBYA
EGYPT

B-6 Regarding the Sea of Marmara, consider the following statements:

1. The Sea of Marmara is a completely land-locked sea enclosed within the territorial boundaries of Turkey.
2. Its surface salinity is comparatively higher than most of the oceans due to the absence of any inter-mixing of ocean currents in the region.
3. The Prime Meridian cuts through the Sea of Marmara.

Which of the above statements is/ are NOT correct?

a) 1 & 2 only
b) 2 & 3 only
c) 1 & 3 only
d) All of the above

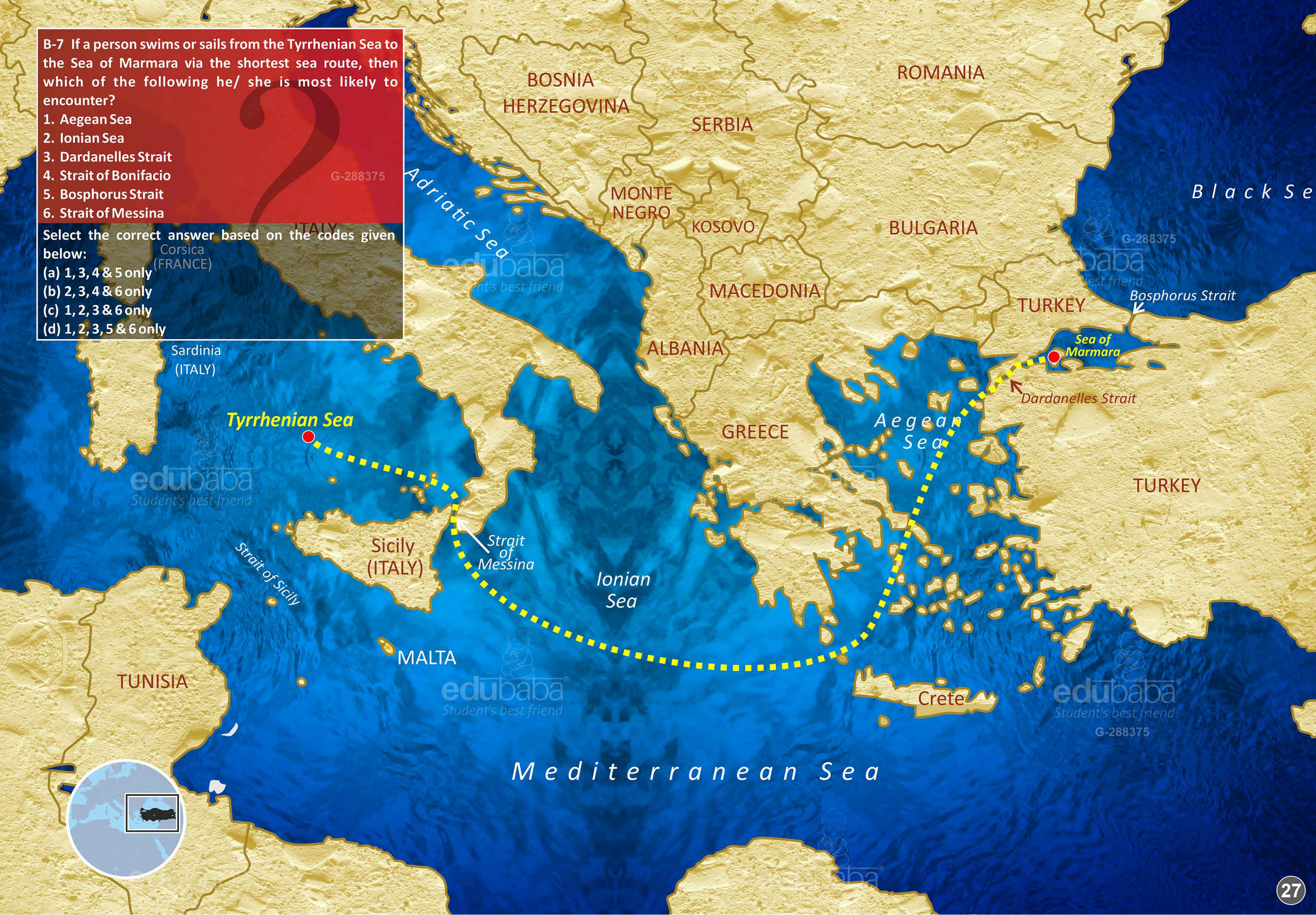

ROMANIA
BULGARIA
MACEDONIA
GREECE
Black Sea
TURKEY
Bosphorus Strait
Sea of Marmara
Dardanelles Strait
TURKEY
Aegean Sea

B-7 If a person swims or sails from the Tyrrhenian Sea to the Sea of Marmara via the shortest sea route, then which of the following he/ she is most likely to encounter?

1. Aegean Sea
2. Ionian Sea
3. Dardanelles Strait
4. Strait of Bonifacio
5. Bosphorus Strait
6. Strait of Messina

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1, 3, 4 & 5 only
(b) 2, 3, 4 & 6 only
(c) 1, 2, 3 & 6 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 5 & 6 only


BOSNIA
HERZEGOVINA
ROMANIA
SERBIA
Adriatic Sea
MONTE NEGRO
KOSOVO
BULGARIA
Black Sea
ITALY
Corsica (FRANCE)
MACEDONIA
TURKEY
Bosphorus Strait
Sardinia (ITALY)
ALBANIA
Sea of Marmara
Dardanelles Strait
Tyrrhenian Sea
GREECE
Aegean Sea
TURKEY
Sicily (ITALY)
Strait of Messina
Ionian Sea
Strait of Sicily
MALTA
TUNISIA
Crete
Mediterranean Sea

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B-8 Which of the following countries do *NOT* border the Adriatic Sea?

1. Slovenia
2. Albania
3. Greece
4. Hungary
5. Austria
6. Italy

Select the correct answer based on codes given below:

a) 3, 4 & 5 only
b) 1, 3, 5 & 6 only
c) 2, 3, 4 & 5 only
d) 2, 3 & 4 only

B-9 Which of the following statements is/ are correct about the Adriatic Sea?

1. The Adriatic Sea connects to the Aegean Sea by a narrow channel through Greece.
2. It connects to the Ionian Sea by a narrow channel between Italy and Albania.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

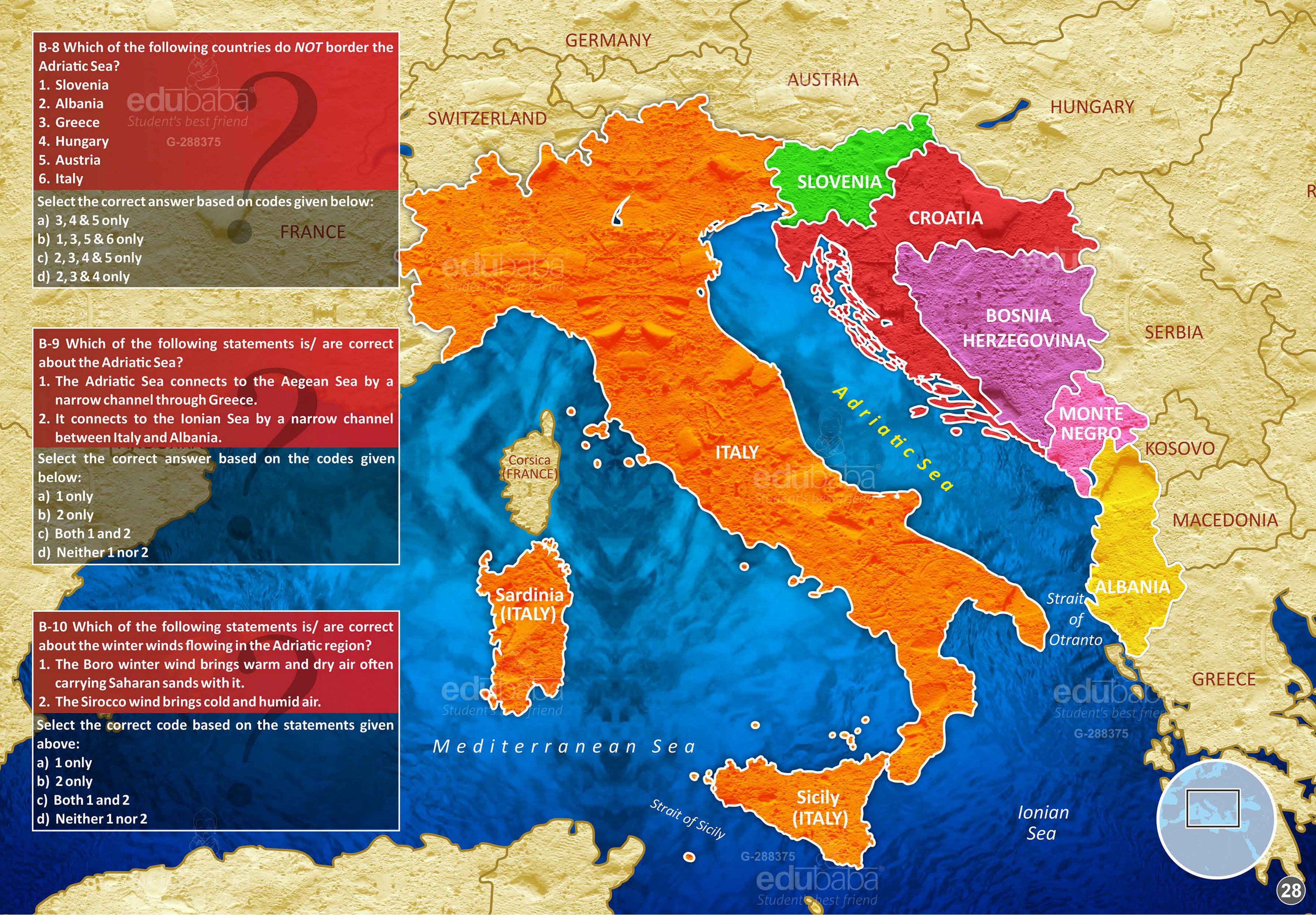
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

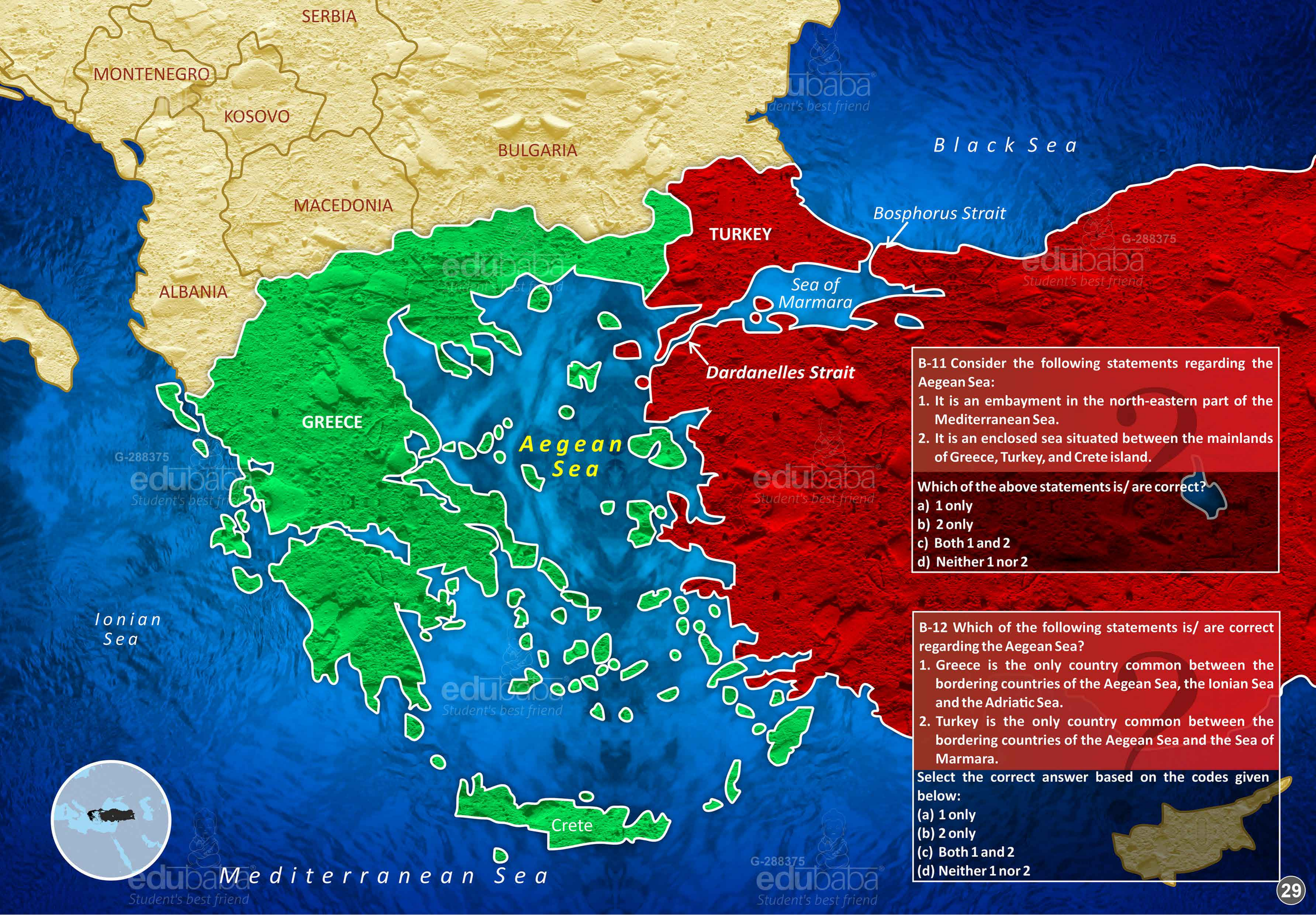
B-10 Which of the following statements is/ are correct about the winter winds flowing in the Adriatic region?

1. The Boro winter wind brings warm and dry air often carrying Saharan sands with it.
2. The Sirocco wind brings cold and humid air.

Select the correct code based on the statements given above:

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2


GERMANY
AUSTRIA
SWITZERLAND
HUNGARY
FRANCE
SLOVENIA
CROATIA
BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA
SERBIA
MONTE NEGRO
KOSOVO
Adriatic Sea
ITALY
Corsica (FRANCE)
MACEDONIA
ALBANIA
Strait of Otranto
Sardinia (ITALY)
GREECE
Mediterranean Sea
Sicily (ITALY)
Strait of Sicily
Ionian Sea


SERBIA
MONTENEGRO
KOSOVO
BULGARIA
MACEDONIA
ALBANIA
GREECE
TURKEY
Black Sea
Bosphorus Strait
Sea of Marmara
Dardanelles Strait
Aegean Sea
Ionian Sea
Crete
Mediterranean Sea

B-11 Consider the following statements regarding the Aegean Sea:

1. It is an embayment in the north-eastern part of the Mediterranean Sea.
2. It is an enclosed sea situated between the mainlands of Greece, Turkey, and Crete island.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-12 Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding the Aegean Sea?

1. Greece is the only country common between the bordering countries of the Aegean Sea, the Ionian Sea and the Adriatic Sea.
2. Turkey is the only country common between the bordering countries of the Aegean Sea and the Sea of Marmara.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

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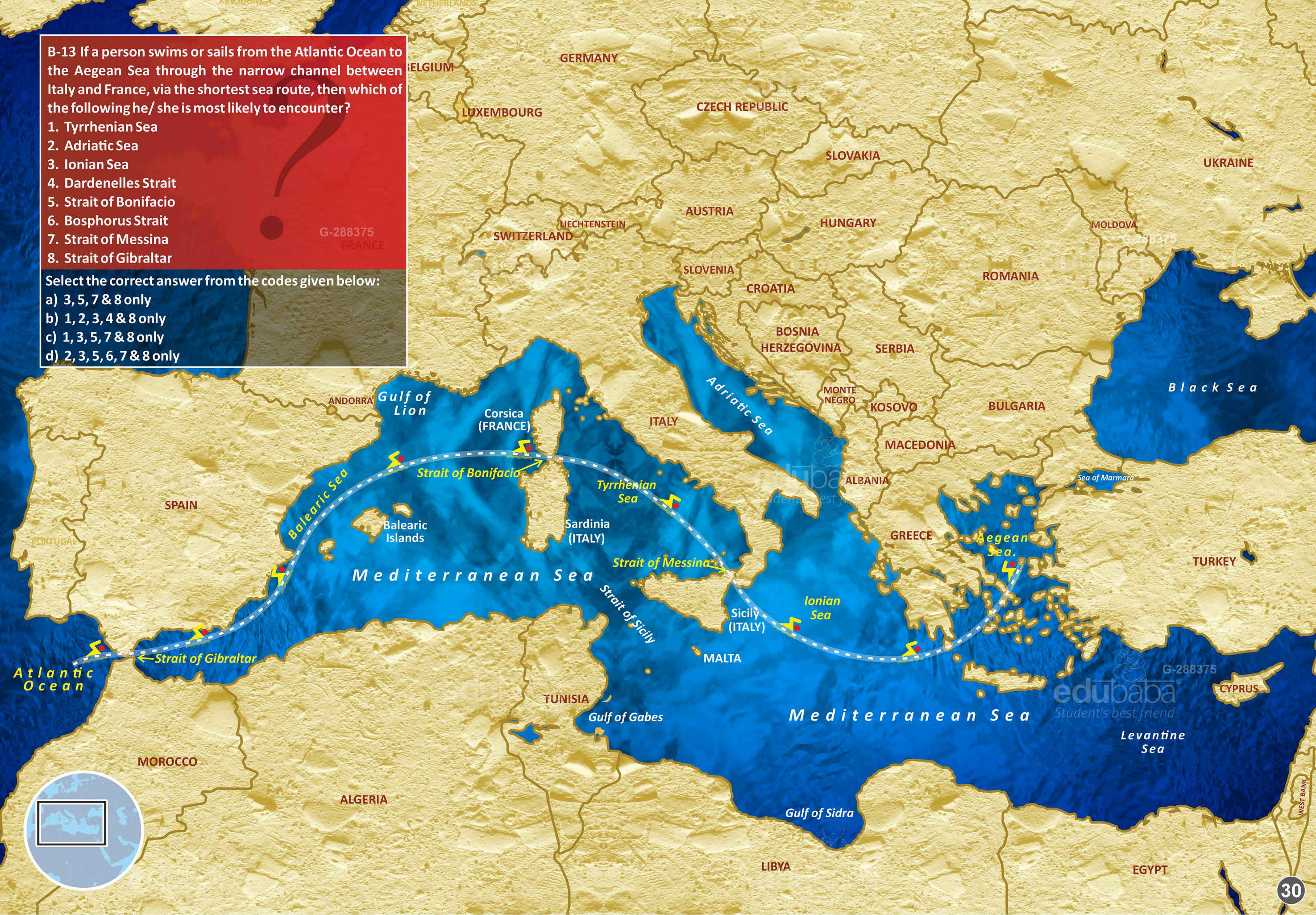
B-13 If a person swims or sails from the Atlantic Ocean to the Aegean Sea through the narrow channel between Italy and France, via the shortest sea route, then which of the following he/ she is most likely to encounter?

1. Tyrrhenian Sea
2. Adriatic Sea
3. Ionian Sea
4. Dardenelles Strait
5. Strait of Bonifacio
6. Bosphorus Strait
7. Strait of Messina
8. Strait of Gibraltar

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

a) 3, 5, 7 & 8 only
b) 1, 2, 3, 4 & 8 only
c) 1, 3, 5, 7 & 8 only
d) 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 & 8 only


GERMANY
BELGIUM
LUXEMBOURG
CZECH REPUBLIC
SLOVAKIA
UKRAINE
FRANCE
LIECHTENSTEIN
SWITZERLAND
AUSTRIA
HUNGARY
MOLDOVA
SLOVENIA
CROATIA
ROMANIA
BOSNIA
HERZEGOVINA
SERBIA
Black Sea
ANDORRA
Gulf of Lion
Corsica (FRANCE)
ITALY
Adriatic Sea
MONTE NEGRO
KOSOVO
BULGARIA
MACEDONIA
Strait of Bonifacio
Balearic Sea
Tyrrhenian Sea
ALBANIA
Sea of Marmara
SPAIN
PORTUGAL
Balearic Islands
Sardinia (ITALY)
GREECE
Aegean Sea.
TURKEY
Strait of Messina
Mediterranean Sea
Strait of Sicily
Sicily (ITALY)
Ionian Sea
Strait of Gibraltar
Atlantic Ocean
MALTA
CYPRUS
TUNISIA
Gulf of Gabes
Mediterranean Sea
Levantine Sea
MOROCCO
ALGERIA
Gulf of Sidra
LIBYA
EGYPT
WEST BANK

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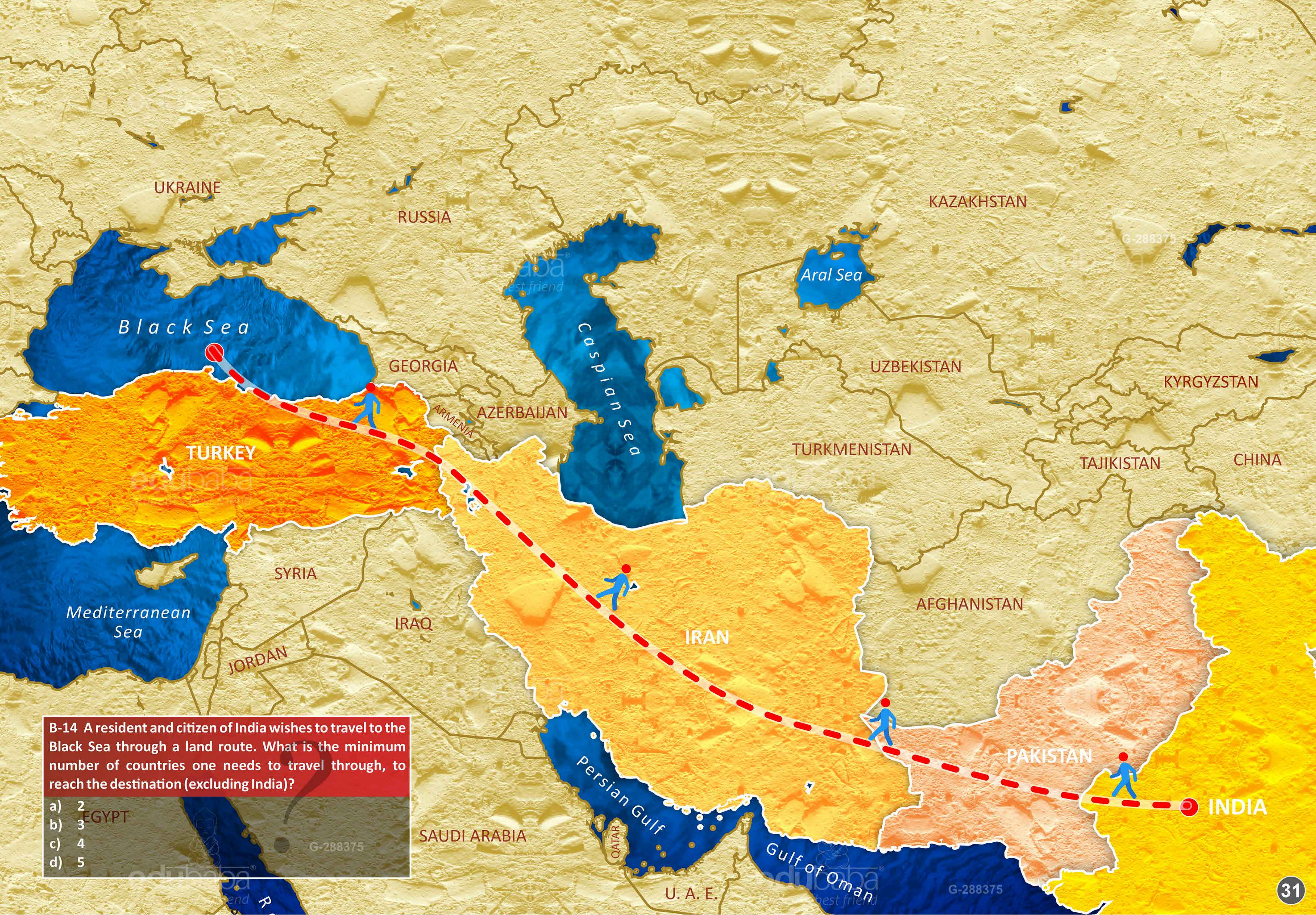
UKRAINE
RUSSIA
KAZAKHSTAN
Aral Sea
Black Sea
Caspian Sea
GEORGIA
ARMENIA
AZERBAIJAN
UZBEKISTAN
KYRGYZSTAN
TURKEY
TURKMENISTAN
TAJIKISTAN
CHINA
SYRIA
Mediterranean Sea
IRAQ
AFGHANISTAN
IRAN
JORDAN
PAKISTAN
INDIA
EGYPT
SAUDI ARABIA
Persian Gulf
QATAR
Gulf of Oman
U. A. E.

B-14 A resident and citizen of India wishes to travel to the Black Sea through a land route. What is the minimum number of countries one needs to travel through, to reach the destination (excluding India)?

a) 2
b) 3
c) 4
d) 5

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B-15 Consider the following list of countries:

1. Russia
2. Ukraine
3. Guinea
4. Georgia
5. Romania
6. Turkey
7. Iran
8. Botswana

From the above list, how many Asian and non-Asian countries respectively, share their boundaries with the Black Sea?

a) 3, 2
b) 2, 3
c) 4, 4
d) 4, 3

B-16 Consider the following statements regarding the Black Sea:

1. It is a completely landlocked sea characterized by a continental type of climate.
2. It connects to the Sea of Marmara by Bosphorous Strait and Sea of Azov by the Strait of Kerch.

Which of the above-mentioned statements is/ are correct?

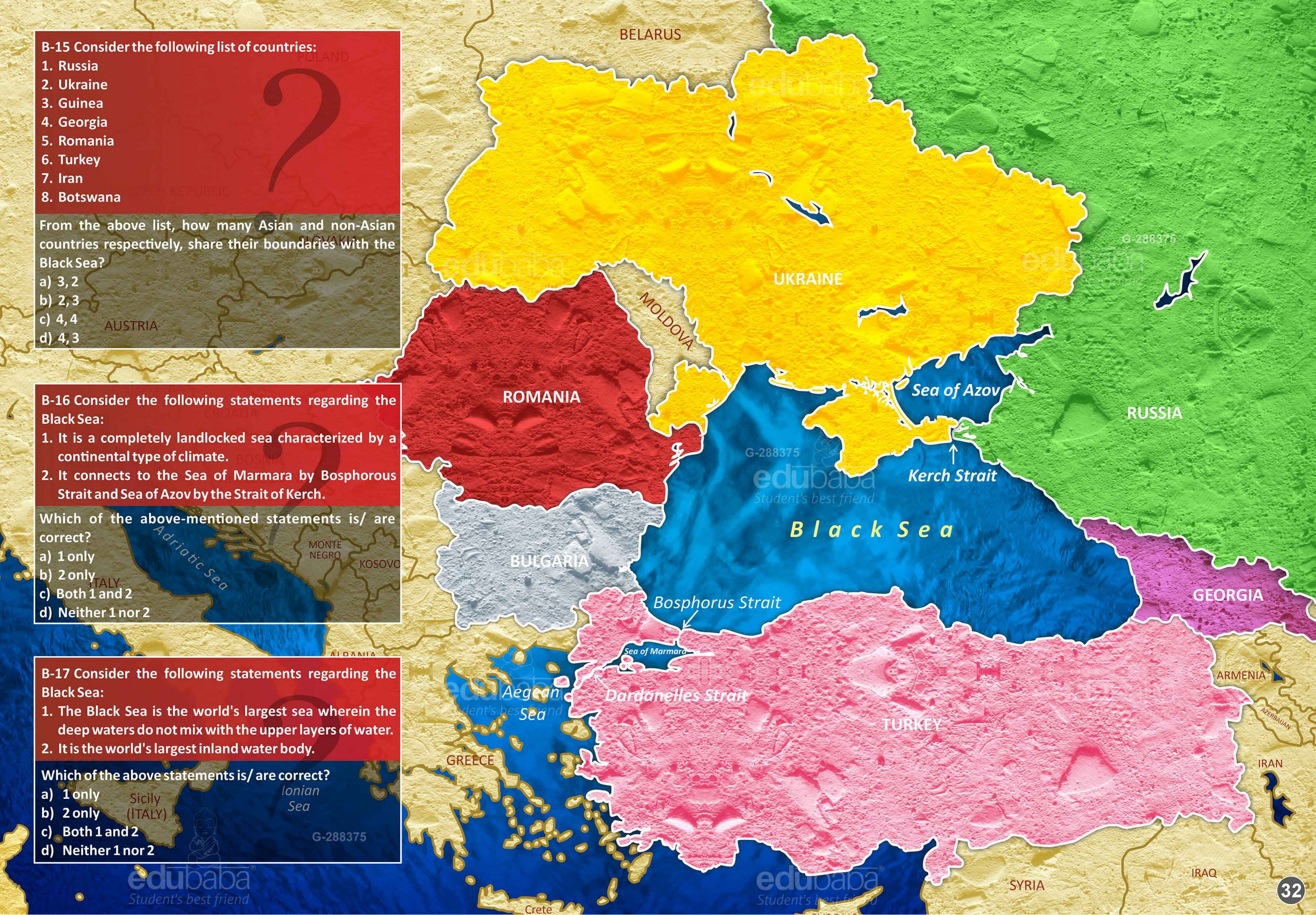
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-17 Consider the following statements regarding the Black Sea:

1. The Black Sea is the world's largest sea wherein the deep waters do not mix with the upper layers of water.
2. It is the world's largest inland water body.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2


BELARUS
POLAND
CZECH REPUBLIC
SLOVAKIA
AUSTRIA
UKRAINE
MOLDOVA
RUSSIA
ROMANIA
CROATIA
BOSNIA
Sea of Azov
Kerch Strait
Black Sea
MONTE NEGRO
KOSOVO
Adriatic Sea
ITALY
BULGARIA
GEORGIA
Bosphorus Strait
ALBANIA
Sea of Marmara
ARMENIA
Aegean Sea
Dardanelles Strait
AZERBAIJAN
TURKEY
GREECE
IRAN
Sicily (ITALY)
Ionian Sea
IRAQ
SYRIA
Crete

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B-18 Consider the following statements about Sea of Azov:

1. It is the shallowest in the world.
2. It is connected to the Black Sea by the Strait of Kerch.
3. It is bordered by Ukraine and Russia.

Which of the above statement(s) is/ are correct?

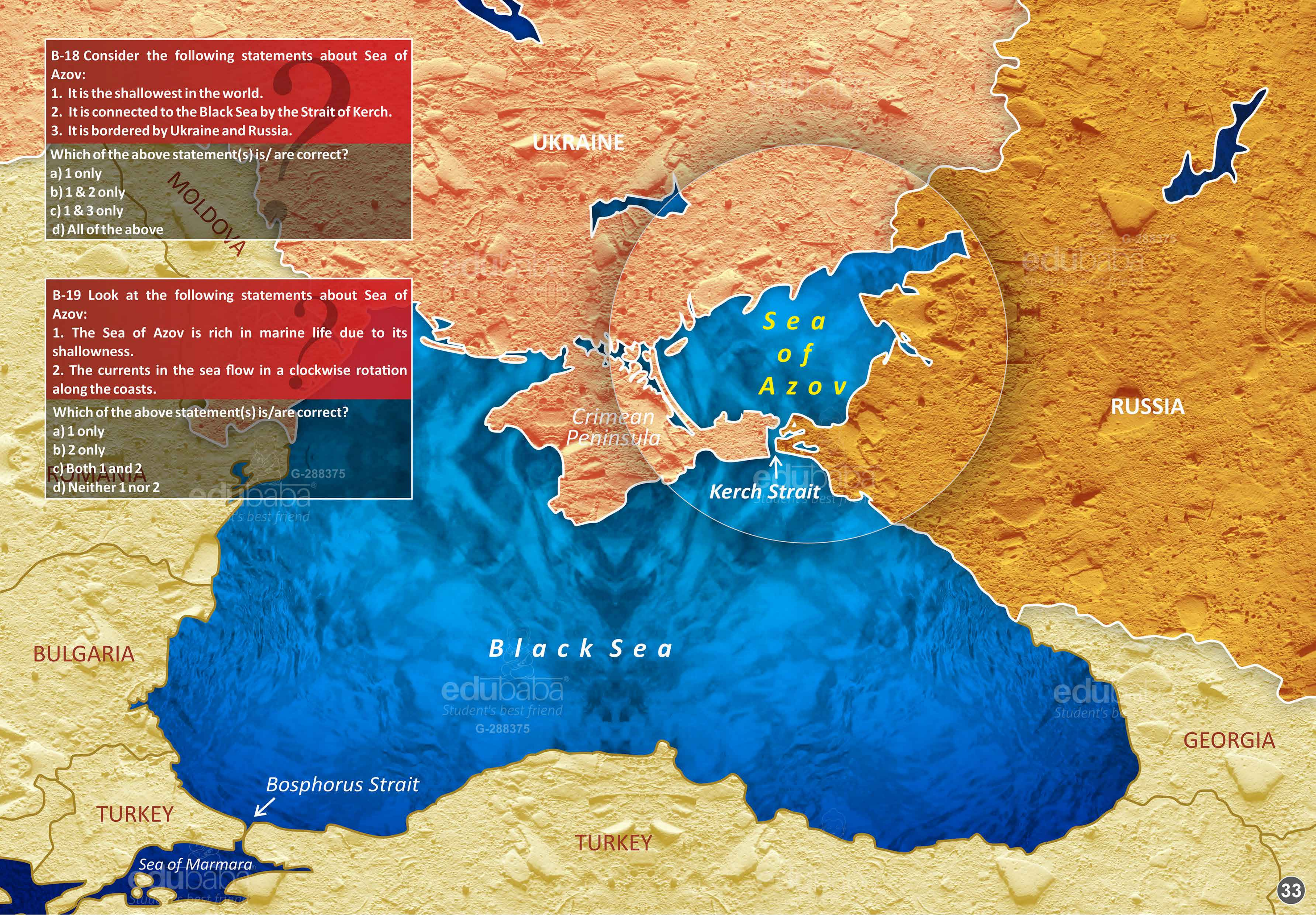
a) 1 only
b) 1 & 2 only
c) 1 & 3 only
d) All of the above

B-19 Look at the following statements about Sea of Azov:

1. The Sea of Azov is rich in marine life due to its shallowness.
2. The currents in the sea flow in a clockwise rotation along the coasts.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2


UKRAINE
MOLDOVA
ROMANIA
Sea of Azov
Crimean Peninsula
Kerch Strait
RUSSIA
Black Sea
BULGARIA
GEORGIA
TURKEY
Bosphorus Strait
TURKEY
Sea of Marmara

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B-20 With which of the following does the Celtic Sea share its boundaries?

1. The English Channel
2. North Sea
3. Irish Channel
4. Bay of Biscay
5. Spain
6. France
7. Pacific Ocean

Select the correct answer based on the codes provided below:

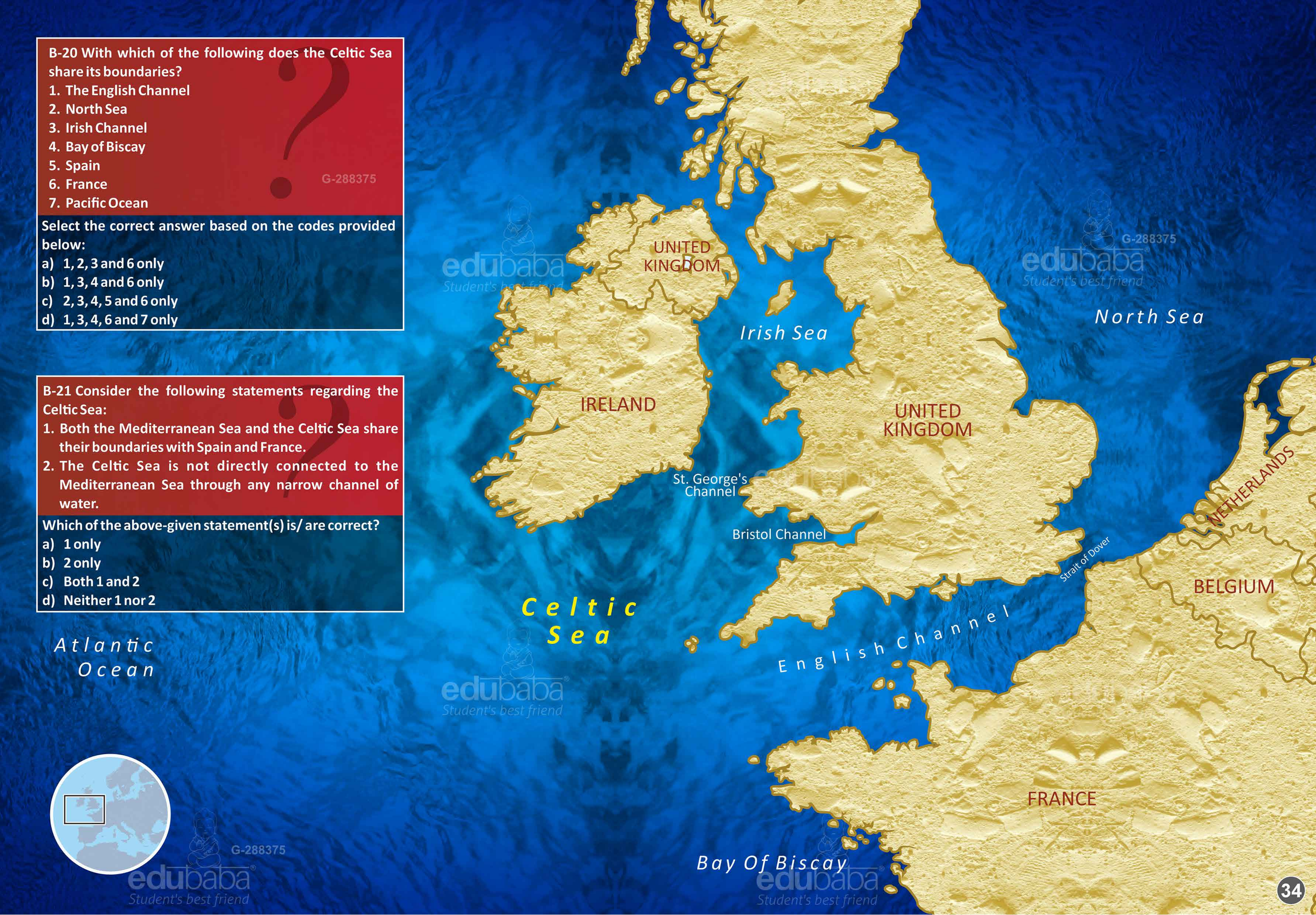
a) 1, 2, 3 and 6 only
b) 1, 3, 4 and 6 only
c) 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only
d) 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7 only

B-21 Consider the following statements regarding the Celtic Sea:

1. Both the Mediterranean Sea and the Celtic Sea share their boundaries with Spain and France.
2. The Celtic Sea is not directly connected to the Mediterranean Sea through any narrow channel of water.

Which of the above-given statement(s) is/ are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2


Atlantic Ocean
Celtic Sea
IRELAND
UNITED KINGDOM
Irish Sea
UNITED KINGDOM
North Sea
St. George's Channel
Bristol Channel
Strait of Dover
English Channel
NETHERLANDS
BELGIUM
FRANCE
Bay Of Biscay

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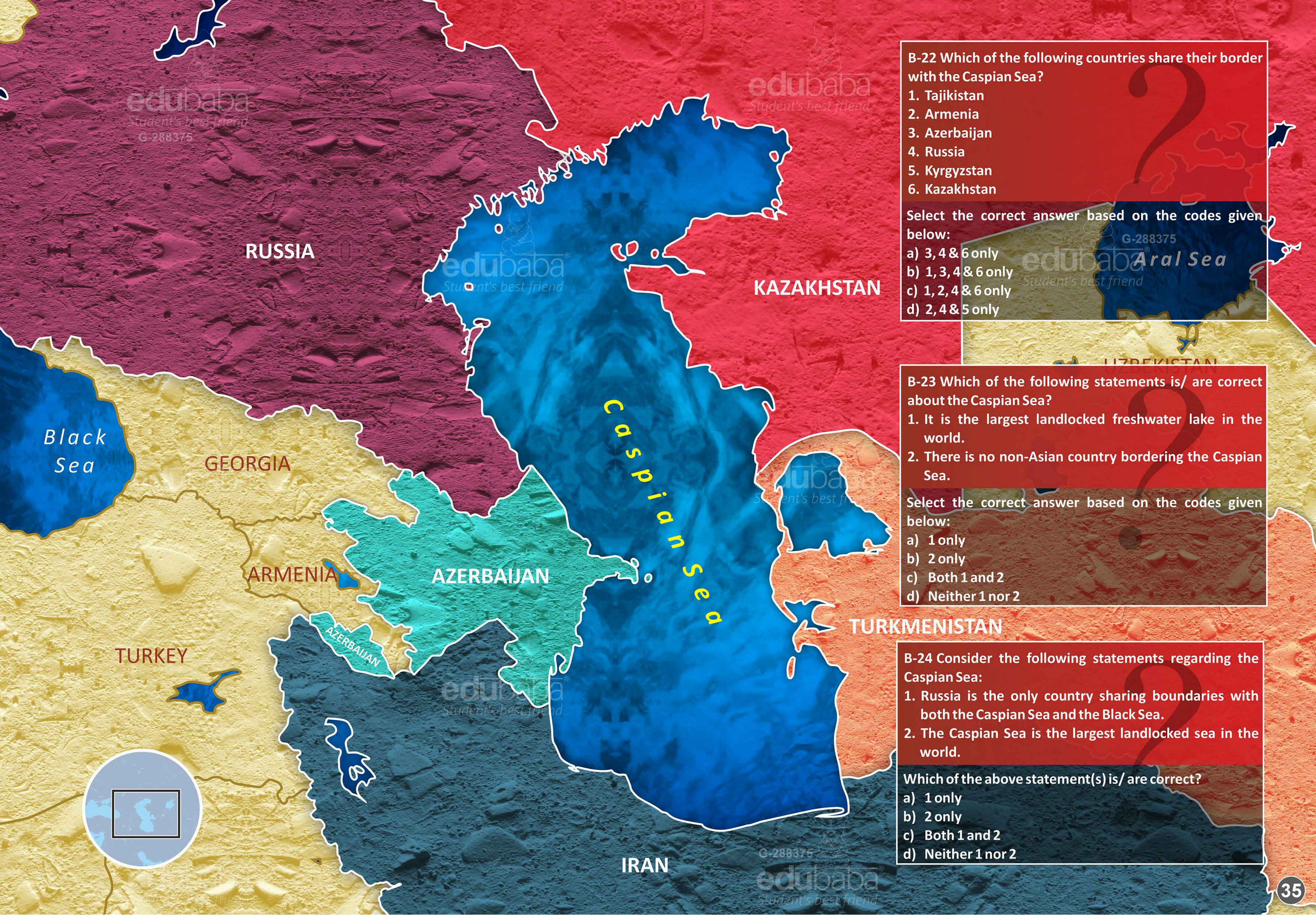

RUSSIA
KAZAKHSTAN
Aral Sea
UZBEKISTAN
Black Sea
GEORGIA
Caspian Sea
ARMENIA
AZERBAIJAN
AZERBAIJAN
TURKEY
TURKMENISTAN
IRAN

B-22 Which of the following countries share their border with the Caspian Sea?

1. Tajikistan
2. Armenia
3. Azerbaijan
4. Russia
5. Kyrgyzstan
6. Kazakhstan

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

a) 3, 4 & 6 only
b) 1, 3, 4 & 6 only
c) 1, 2, 4 & 6 only
d) 2, 4 & 5 only

B-23 Which of the following statements is/ are correct about the Caspian Sea?

1. It is the largest landlocked freshwater lake in the world.
2. There is no non-Asian country bordering the Caspian Sea.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-24 Consider the following statements regarding the Caspian Sea:

1. Russia is the only country sharing boundaries with both the Caspian Sea and the Black Sea.
2. The Caspian Sea is the largest landlocked sea in the world.

Which of the above statement(s) is/ are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

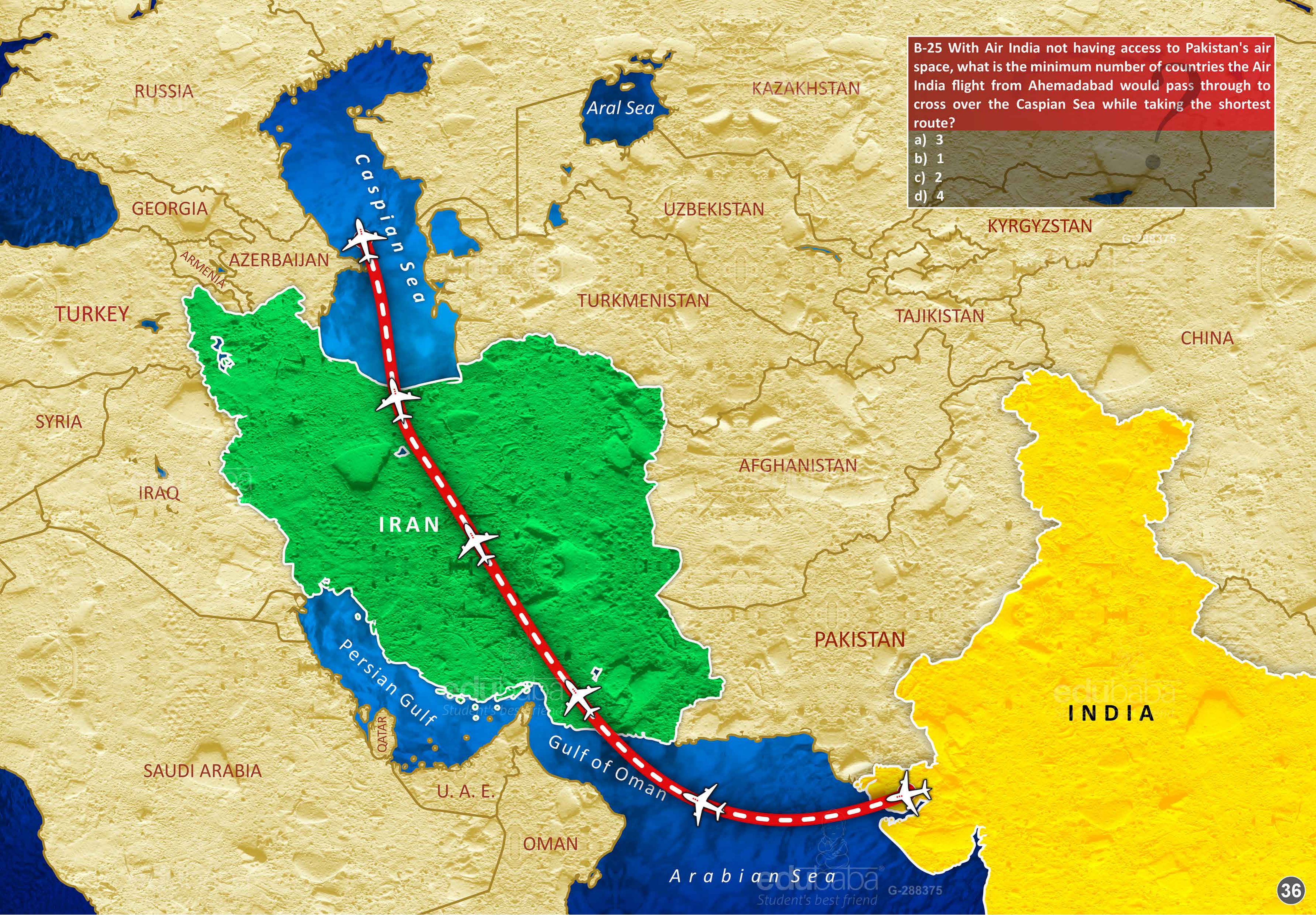
B-25 With Air India not having access to Pakistan's air space, what is the minimum number of countries the Air India flight from Ahemadabad would pass through to cross over the Caspian Sea while taking the shortest route?

a) 3

b) 1

c) 2

d) 4


RUSSIA
KAZAKHSTAN
Aral Sea
Caspian Sea
GEORGIA
ARMENIA
AZERBAIJAN
UZBEKISTAN
KYRGYZSTAN
TURKEY
TURKMENISTAN
TAJIKISTAN
CHINA
SYRIA
AFGHANISTAN
IRAQ
IRAN
PAKISTAN
INDIA
Persian Gulf
QATAR
Gulf of Oman
SAUDI ARABIA
U. A. E.
OMAN
Arabian Sea

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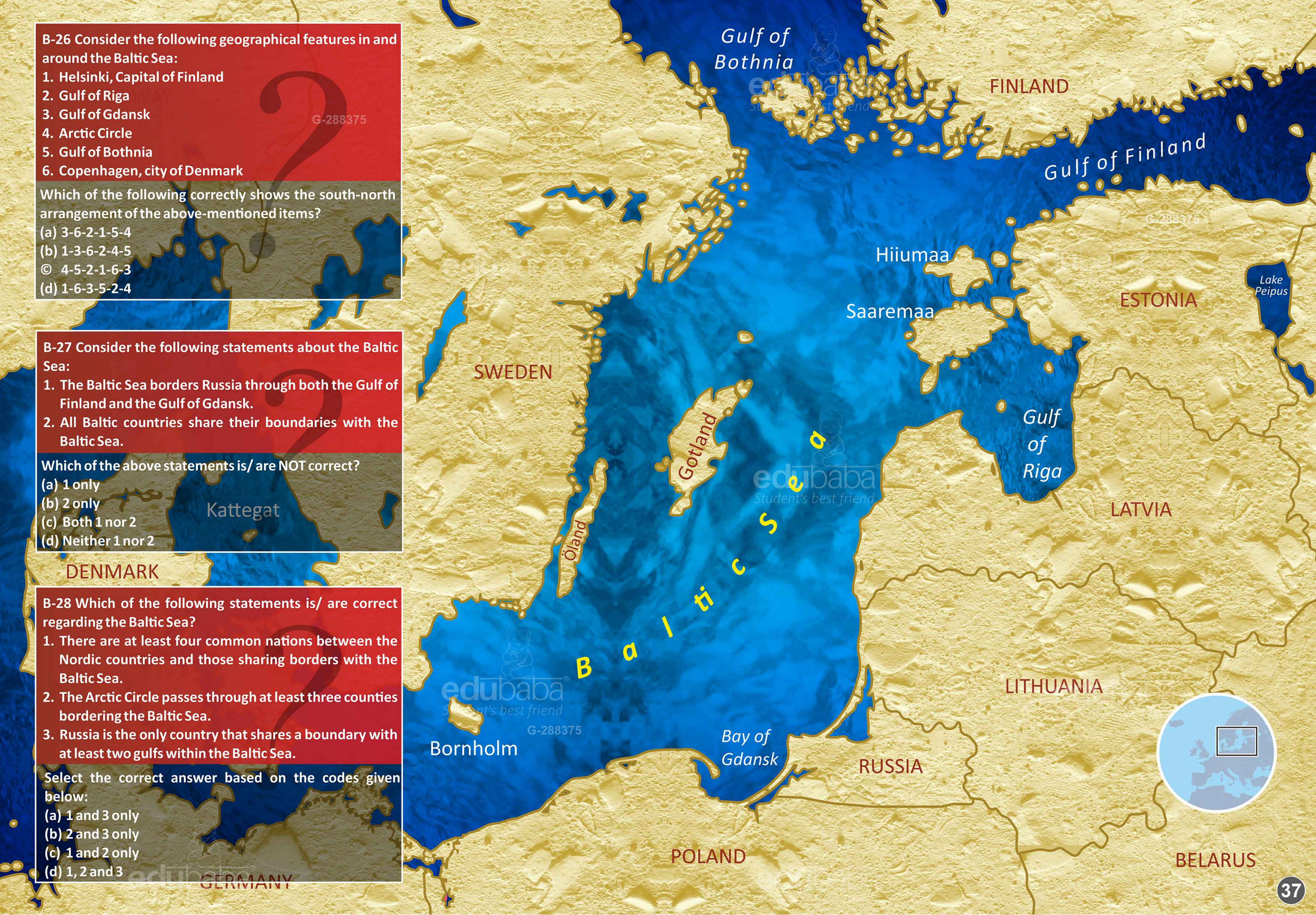

Gulf of Bothnia
FINLAND
Gulf of Finland
Hiiumaa
Saaremaa
ESTONIA
Lake Peipus
SWEDEN
Gotland
Gulf of Riga
LATVIA
Öland
Baltic Sea
Kattegat
DENMARK
LITHUANIA
Bornholm
Bay of Gdansk
RUSSIA
POLAND
BELARUS
GERMANY

B-26 Consider the following geographical features in and around the Baltic Sea:

1. Helsinki, Capital of Finland
2. Gulf of Riga
3. Gulf of Gdansk
4. Arctic Circle
5. Gulf of Bothnia
6. Copenhagen, city of Denmark

Which of the following correctly shows the south-north arrangement of the above-mentioned items?

(a) 3-6-2-1-5-4
(b) 1-3-6-2-4-5
© 4-5-2-1-6-3
(d) 1-6-3-5-2-4

B-27 Consider the following statements about the Baltic Sea:

1. The Baltic Sea borders Russia through both the Gulf of Finland and the Gulf of Gdansk.
2. All Baltic countries share their boundaries with the Baltic Sea.

Which of the above statements is/ are NOT correct?

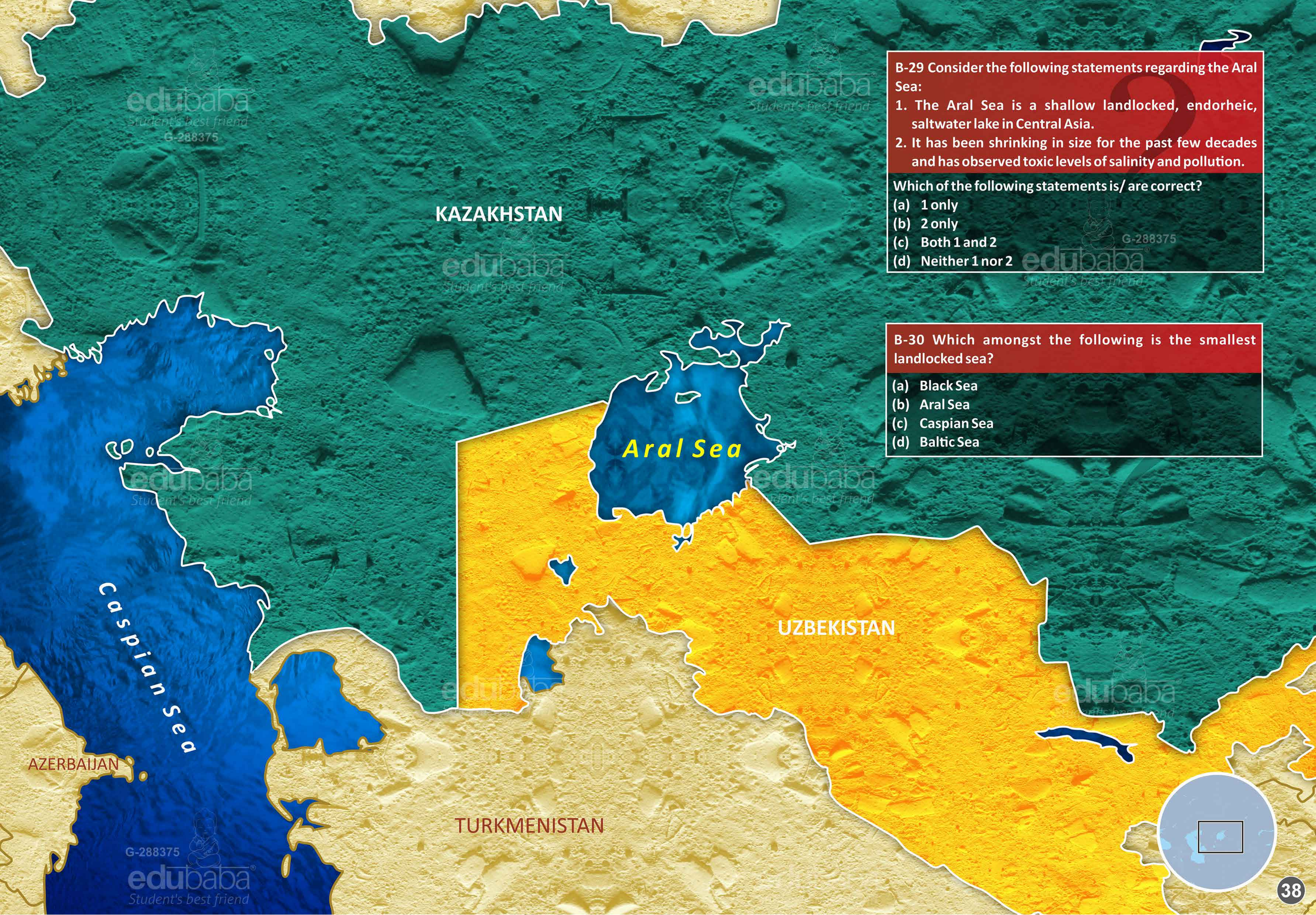
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 nor 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-28 Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding the Baltic Sea?

1. There are at least four common nations between the Nordic countries and those sharing borders with the Baltic Sea.
2. The Arctic Circle passes through at least three counties bordering the Baltic Sea.
3. Russia is the only country that shares a boundary with at least two gulfs within the Baltic Sea.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3


KAZAKHSTAN
Aral Sea
Caspian Sea
UZBEKISTAN
AZERBAIJAN
TURKMENISTAN

B-29 Consider the following statements regarding the Aral Sea:

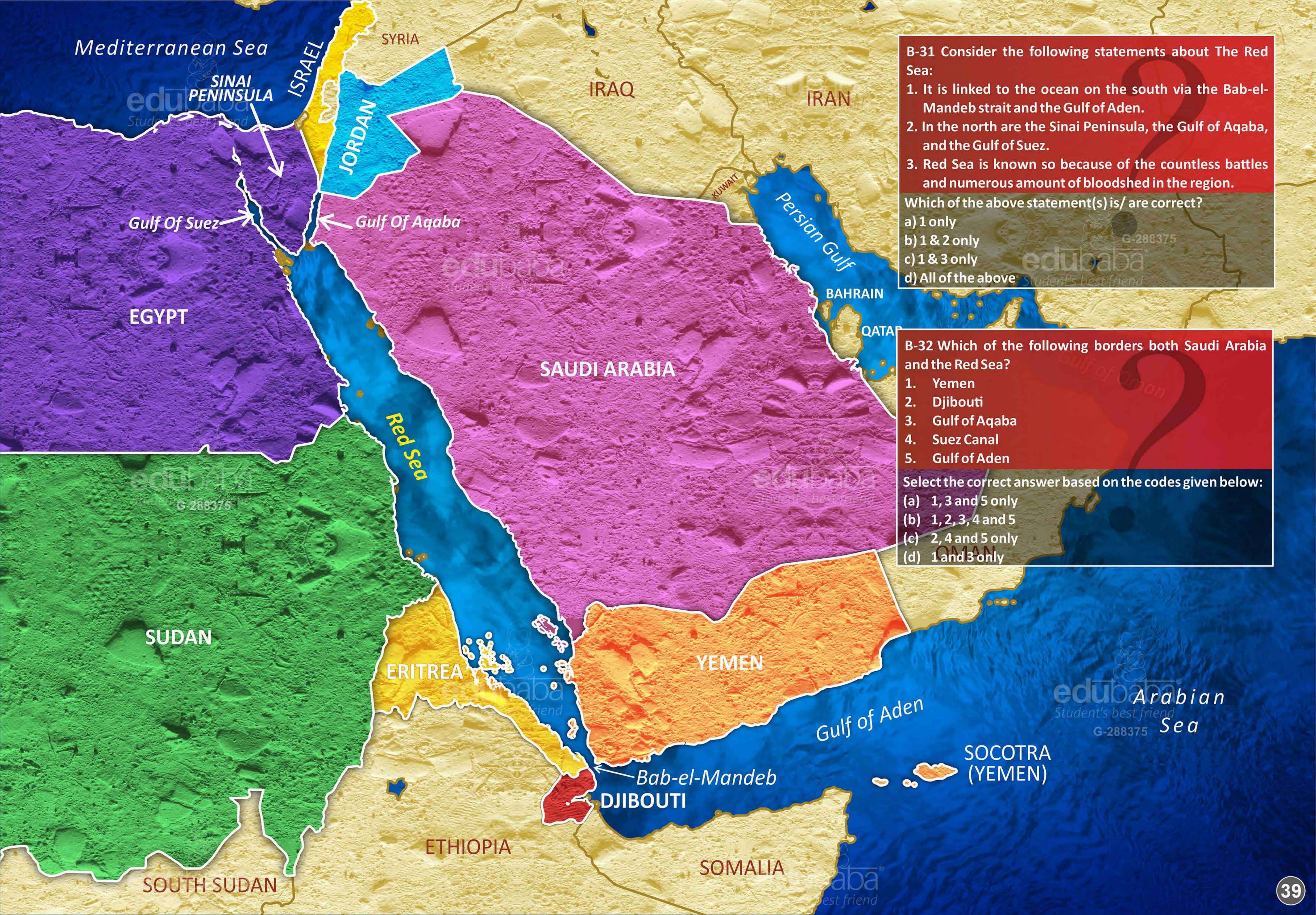
1. **The Aral Sea is a shallow landlocked, endorheic, saltwater lake in Central Asia.**
2. **It has been shrinking in size for the past few decades and has observed toxic levels of salinity and pollution.**

Which of the following statements is/ are correct?

- **(a) 1 only**
- **(b) 2 only**
- **(c) Both 1 and 2**
- **(d) Neither 1 nor 2**

B-30 Which amongst the following is the smallest landlocked sea?

- **(a) Black Sea**
- **(b) Aral Sea**
- **(c) Caspian Sea**
- **(d) Baltic Sea**


Mediterranean Sea
SINAI PENINSULA
ISRAEL
SYRIA
JORDAN
IRAQ
IRAN
KUWAIT
Persian Gulf
BAHRAIN
QATAR
Gulf of Oman
OMAN
Gulf Of Suez
Gulf Of Aqaba
EGYPT
SAUDI ARABIA
Red Sea
SUDAN
ERITREA
YEMEN
Gulf of Aden
Arabian Sea
SOCOTRA (YEMEN)
Bab-el-Mandeb
DJIBOUTI
ETHIOPIA
SOMALIA
SOUTH SUDAN

B-31 Consider the following statements about The Red Sea:

1. It is linked to the ocean on the south via the Bab-el-Mandeb strait and the Gulf of Aden.
2. In the north are the Sinai Peninsula, the Gulf of Aqaba, and the Gulf of Suez.
3. Red Sea is known so because of the countless battles and numerous amount of bloodshed in the region.

Which of the above statement(s) is/ are correct?

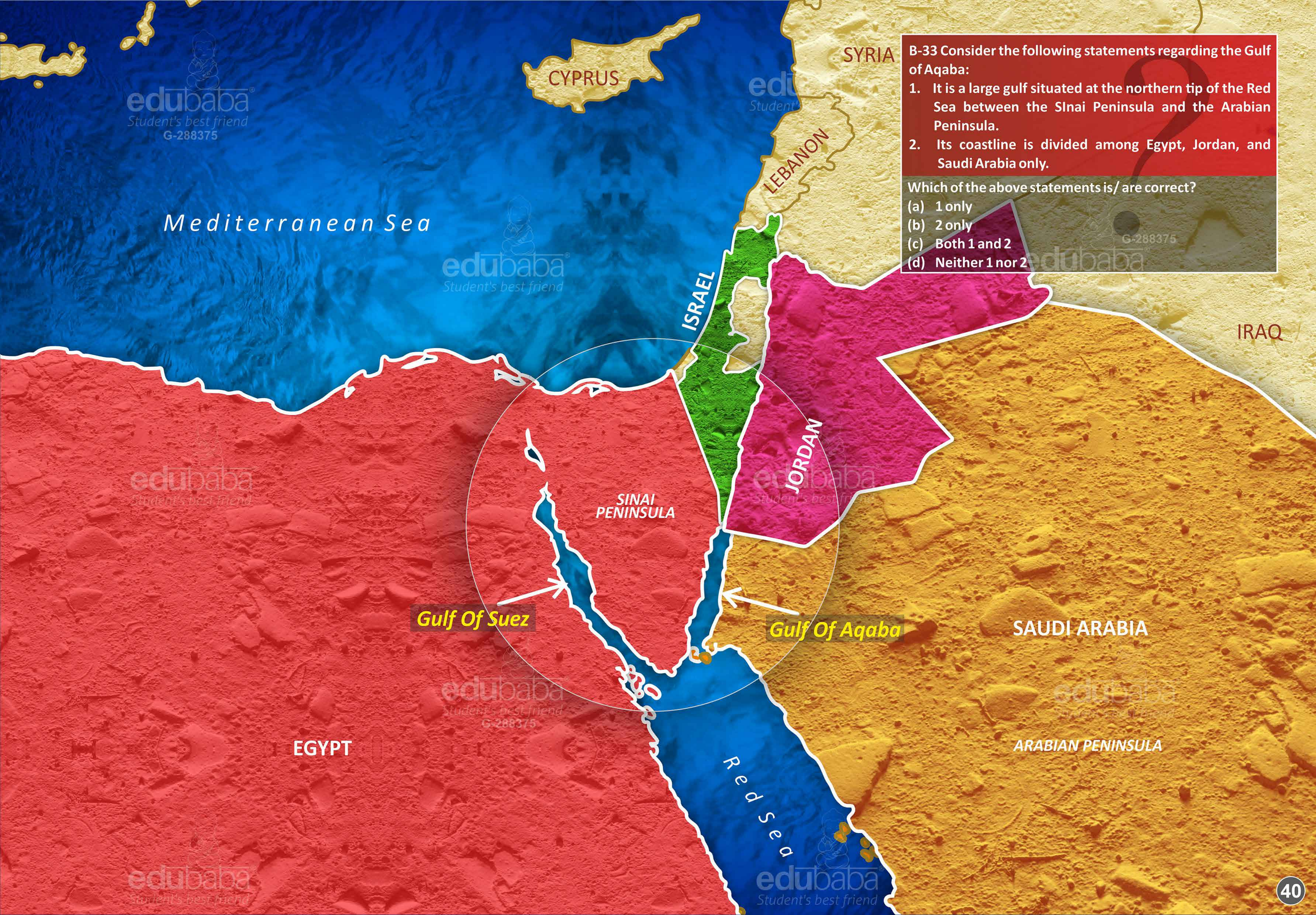
a) 1 only
b) 1 & 2 only
c) 1 & 3 only
d) All of the above

B-32 Which of the following borders both Saudi Arabia and the Red Sea?

1. Yemen
2. Djibouti
3. Gulf of Aqaba
4. Suez Canal
5. Gulf of Aden

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1, 3 and 5 only
(b) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
(c) 2, 4 and 5 only
(d) 1 and 3 only


CYPRUS
SYRIA
LEBANON
Mediterranean Sea
ISRAEL
JORDAN
IRAQ
SINAI PENINSULA
Gulf Of Suez
Gulf Of Aqaba
SAUDI ARABIA
EGYPT
ARABIAN PENINSULA
Red Sea

B-33 Consider the following statements regarding the Gulf of Aqaba:

1. It is a large gulf situated at the northern tip of the Red Sea between the SInai Peninsula and the Arabian Peninsula.
2. Its coastline is divided among Egypt, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia only.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-34 Consider the following statements regarding the Gulf of Aden:

1. **It opens towards both the Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Oman.**
2. **It is bordered by the Horn of Africa to the south and Arabian Peninsula to the north.**

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

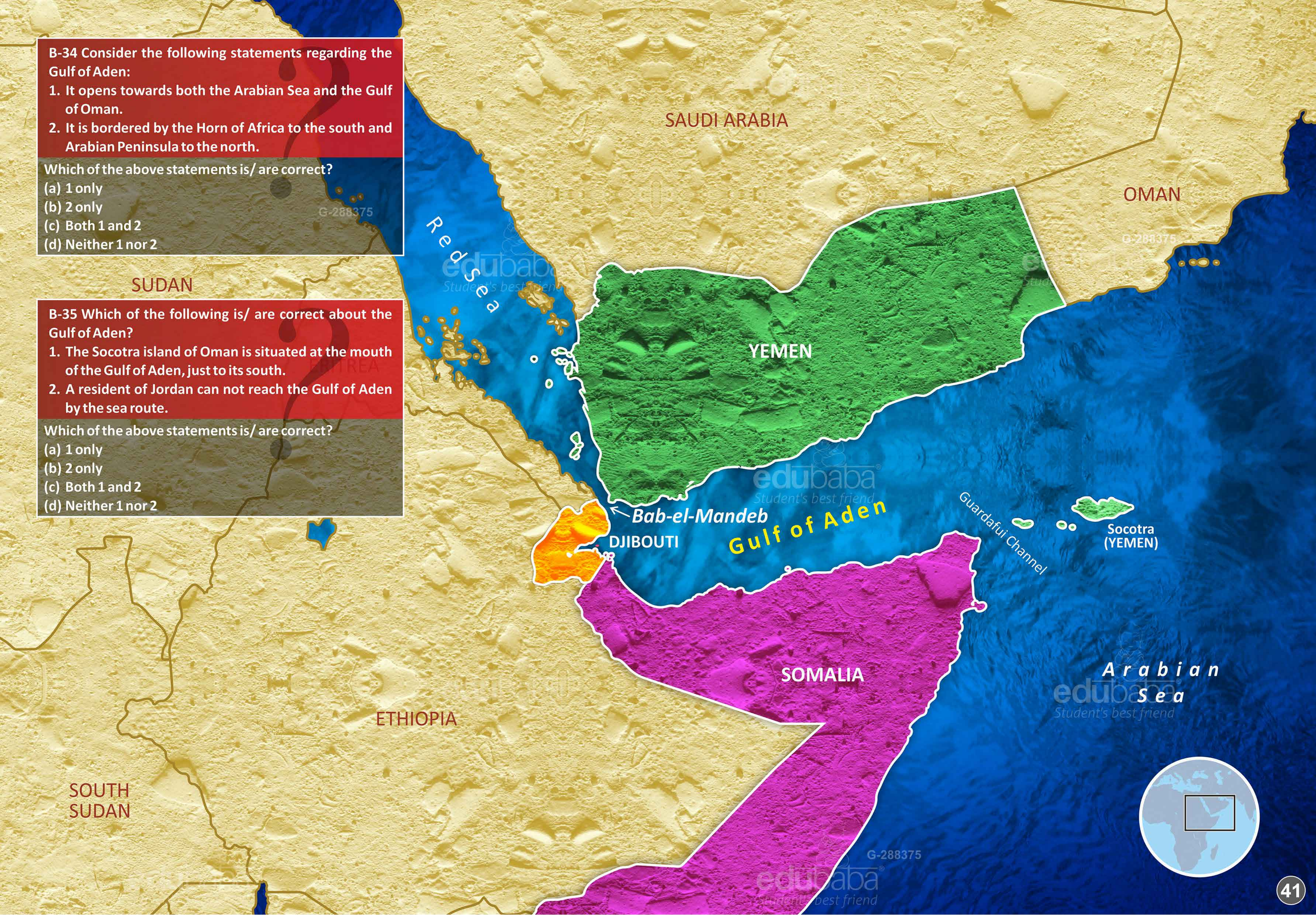
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-35 Which of the following is/ are correct about the Gulf of Aden?

1. **The Socotra island of Oman is situated at the mouth of the Gulf of Aden, just to its south.**
2. **A resident of Jordan can not reach the Gulf of Aden by the sea route.**

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2


SAUDI ARABIA
OMAN
SUDAN
Red Sea
ERITREA
YEMEN
Bab-el-Mandeb
DJIBOUTI
Gulf of Aden
Guardafui Channel
Socotra (YEMEN)
SOMALIA
ETHIOPIA
SOUTH SUDAN
Arabian Sea

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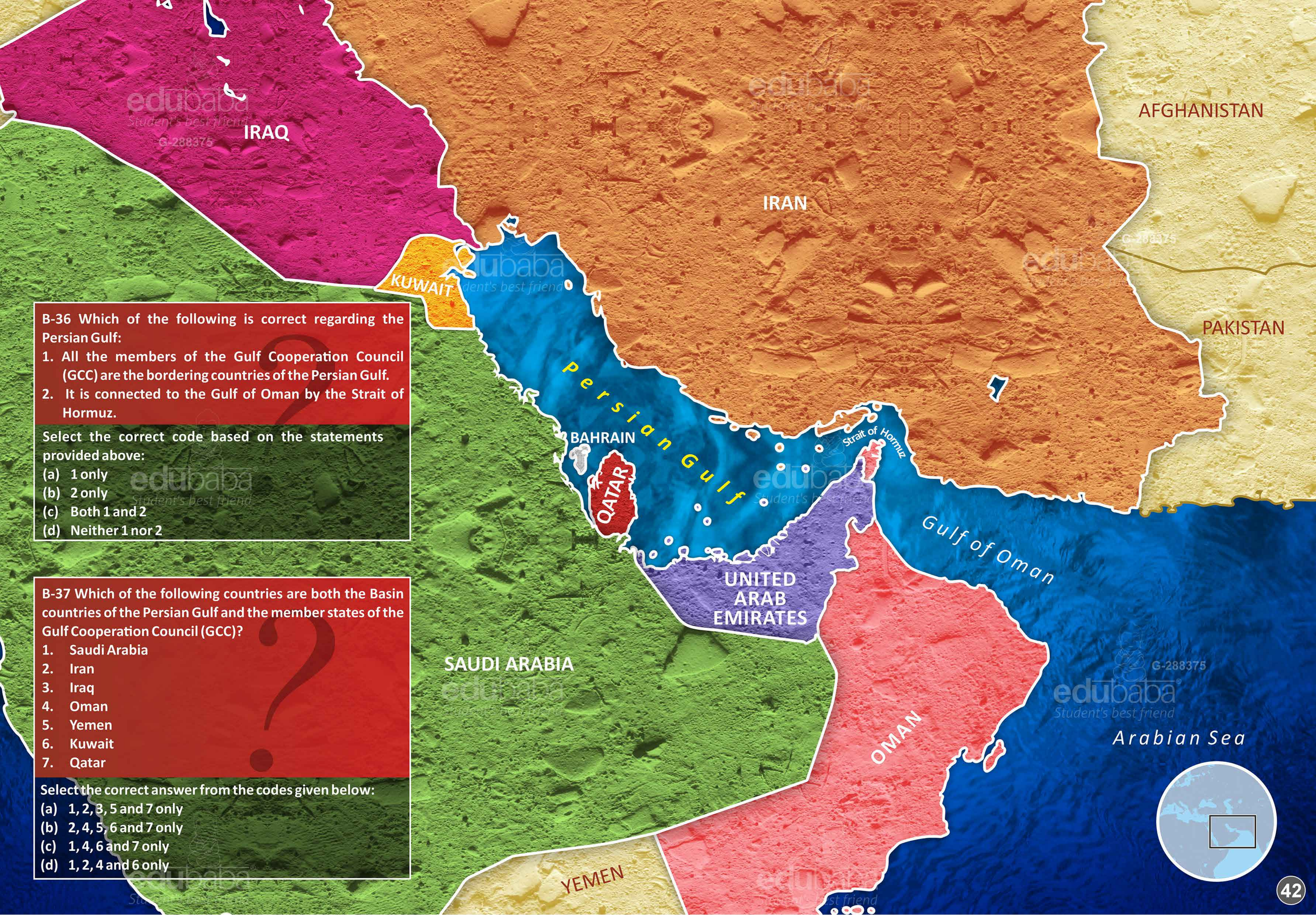

IRAQ
IRAN
AFGHANISTAN
PAKISTAN
KUWAIT
Persian Gulf
BAHRAIN
QATAR
Strait of Hormuz
Gulf of Oman
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
SAUDI ARABIA
OMAN
Arabian Sea
YEMEN

B-36 Which of the following is correct regarding the Persian Gulf:

1. All the members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) are the bordering countries of the Persian Gulf.
2. It is connected to the Gulf of Oman by the Strait of Hormuz.

Select the correct code based on the statements provided above:

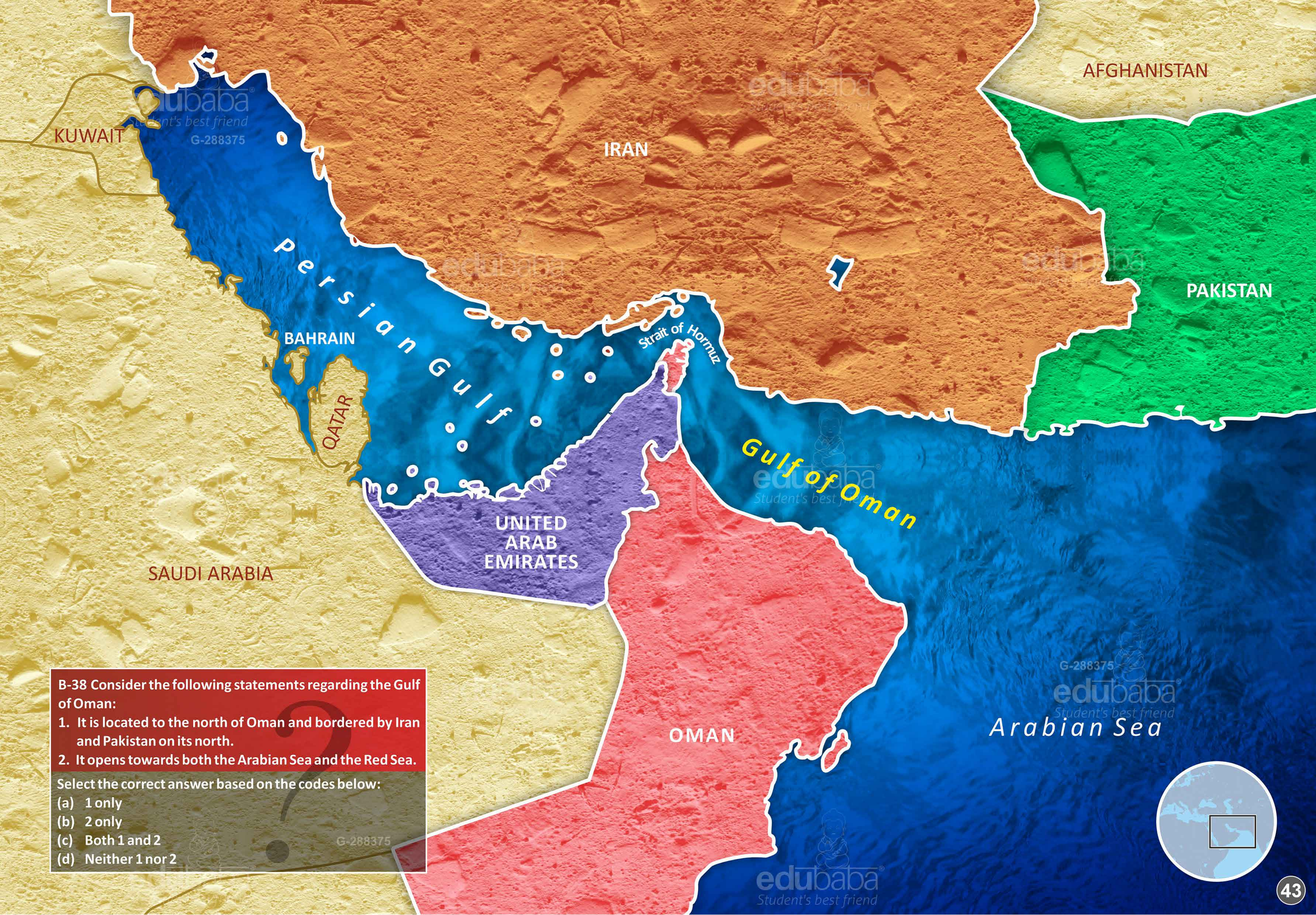
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-37 Which of the following countries are both the Basin countries of the Persian Gulf and the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)?

1. Saudi Arabia
2. Iran
3. Iraq
4. Oman
5. Yemen
6. Kuwait
7. Qatar

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

(a) 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7 only
(b) 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7 only
(c) 1, 4, 6 and 7 only
(d) 1, 2, 4 and 6 only

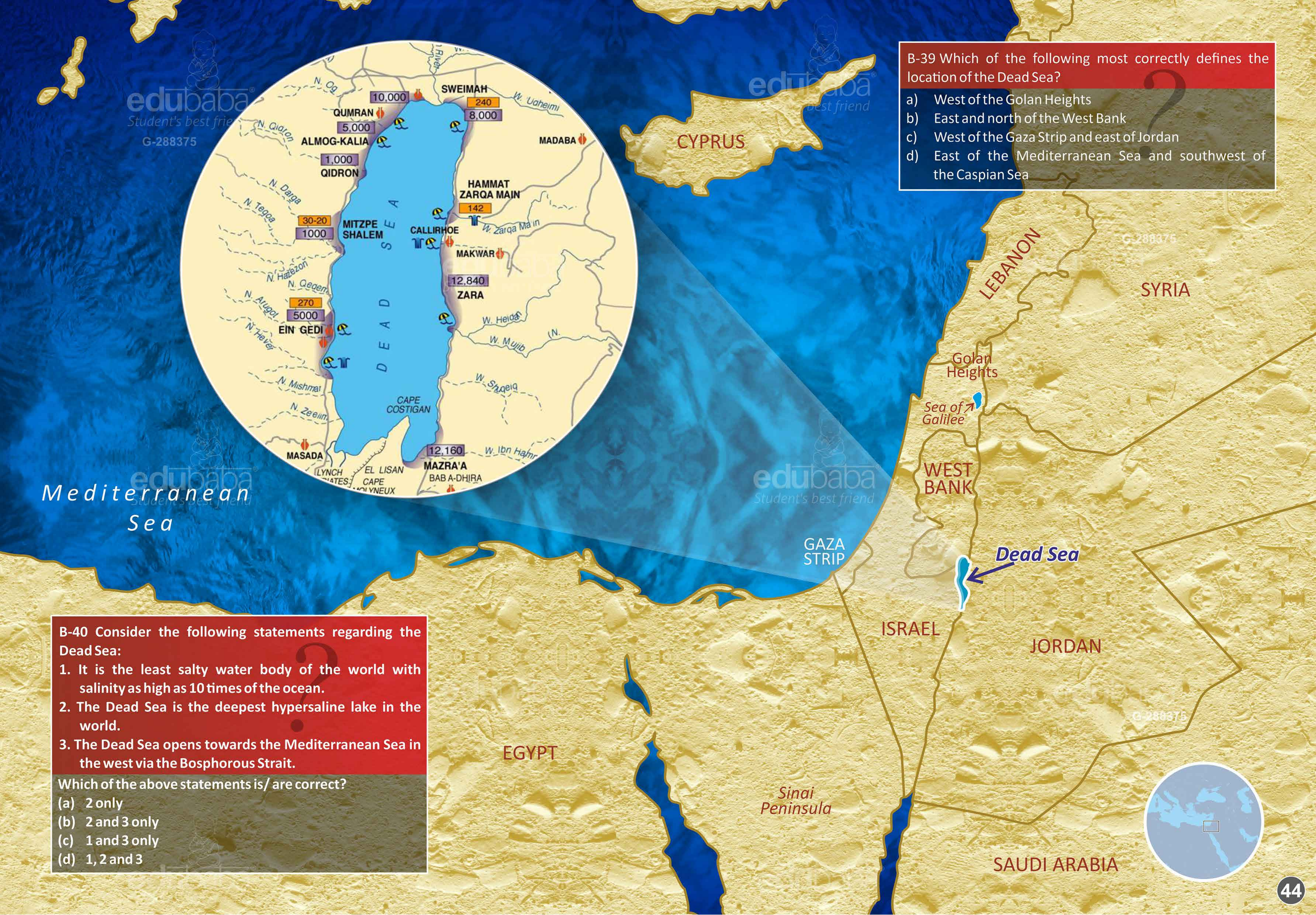

AFGHANISTAN
KUWAIT
IRAN
PAKISTAN
Persian Gulf
BAHRAIN
QATAR
Strait of Hormuz
Gulf of Oman
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
SAUDI ARABIA
OMAN
Arabian Sea

B-38 Consider the following statements regarding the Gulf of Oman:

1. It is located to the north of Oman and bordered by Iran and Pakistan on its north.
2. It opens towards both the Arabian Sea and the Red Sea.

Select the correct answer based on the codes below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2


N. Og
10,000
SWEIMAH
240
8,000
W. Uaheimi
QUMRAN
5,000
N. Qidron
ALMOG-KALIA
MADABA
1,000
QIDRON
N. Darga
HAMMAT
ZARQA MAIN
142
N. Teqoa
30-20
1000
MITZPE
SHALEM
CALLIRHOE
W. Zarqa Ma'in
MAKWAR
N. Hazezon
N. Qeqem
12,840
ZARA
N. Arugot
270
5000
W. Heidan
EIN GEDI
N. Hever
W. Mujib
DEAD SEA
W. Shueiq
N. Mishmar
CAPE
COSTIGAN
N. Zeelim
MASADA
12,160
W. Ibn Hamm
LYNCH
STRAITS
EL LISAN
CAPE
MOLYNEUX
MAZRA'A
BAB A-DHIRA
CYPRUS
LEBANON
SYRIA
Golan
Heights
Sea of
Galilee
WEST
BANK
GAZA
STRIP
Dead Sea
ISRAEL
JORDAN
Mediterranean
Sea
EGYPT
Sinai
Peninsula
SAUDI ARABIA

B-39 Which of the following most correctly defines the location of the Dead Sea?

a) West of the Golan Heights

b) East and north of the West Bank

c) West of the Gaza Strip and east of Jordan

d) East of the Mediterranean Sea and southwest of the Caspian Sea

B-40 Consider the following statements regarding the Dead Sea:

1. It is the least salty water body of the world with salinity as high as 10 times of the ocean.

2. The Dead Sea is the deepest hypersaline lake in the world.

3. The Dead Sea opens towards the Mediterranean Sea in the west via the Bosphorous Strait.

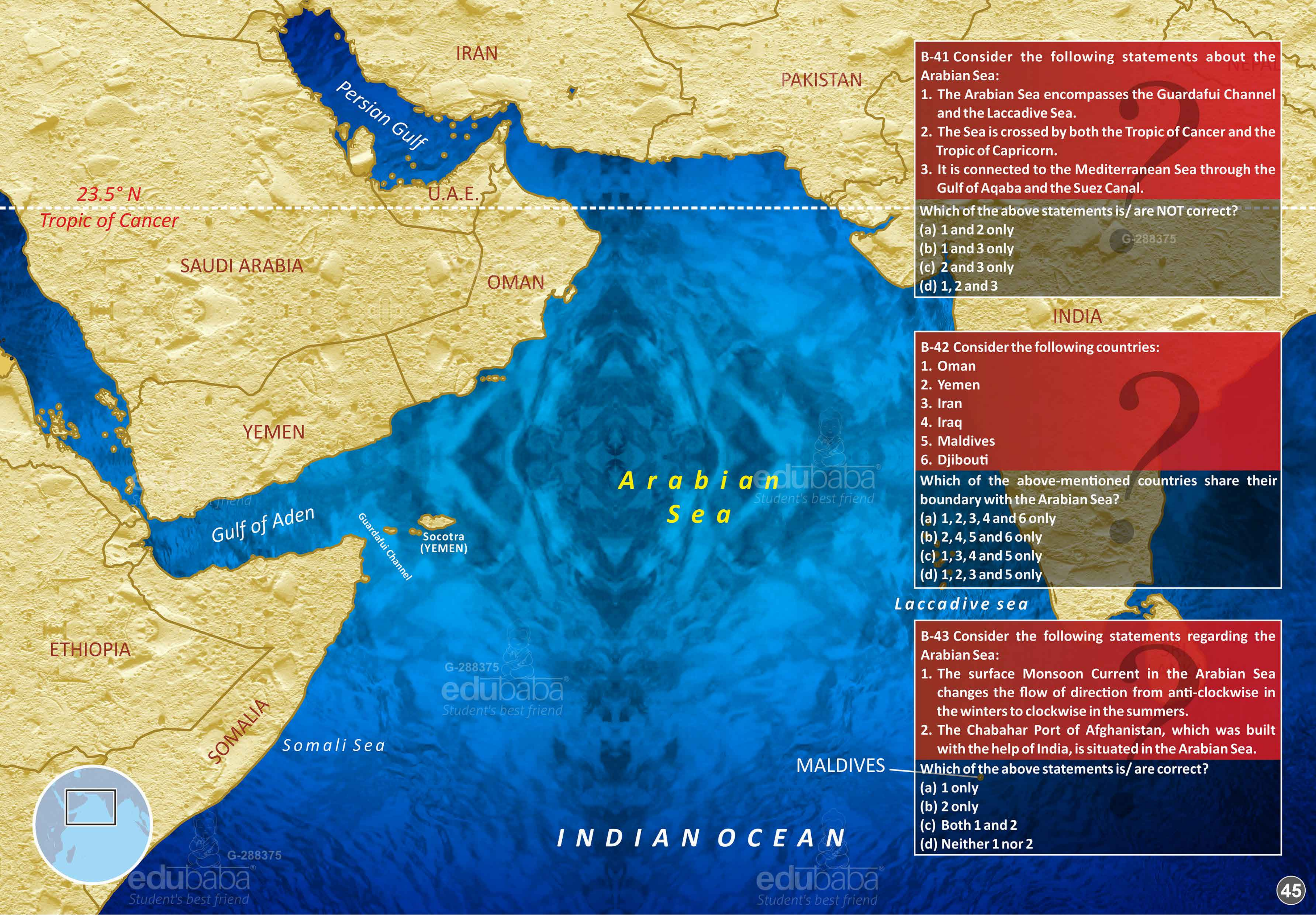
Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

(a) 2 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3


IRAN
PAKISTAN
NEPAL
Persian Gulf
U.A.E.
23.5° N
Tropic of Cancer
SAUDI ARABIA
OMAN
INDIA
YEMEN
Arabian Sea
Gulf of Aden
Guardafui Channel
Socotra (YEMEN)
Laccadive sea
ETHIOPIA
SOMALIA
Somali Sea
MALDIVES
INDIAN OCEAN

B-41 Consider the following statements about the Arabian Sea:

1. The Arabian Sea encompasses the Guardafui Channel and the Laccadive Sea.
2. The Sea is crossed by both the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.
3. It is connected to the Mediterranean Sea through the Gulf of Aqaba and the Suez Canal.

Which of the above statements is/ are NOT correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

B-42 Consider the following countries:

1. Oman
2. Yemen
3. Iran
4. Iraq
5. Maldives
6. Djibouti

Which of the above-mentioned countries share their boundary with the Arabian Sea?

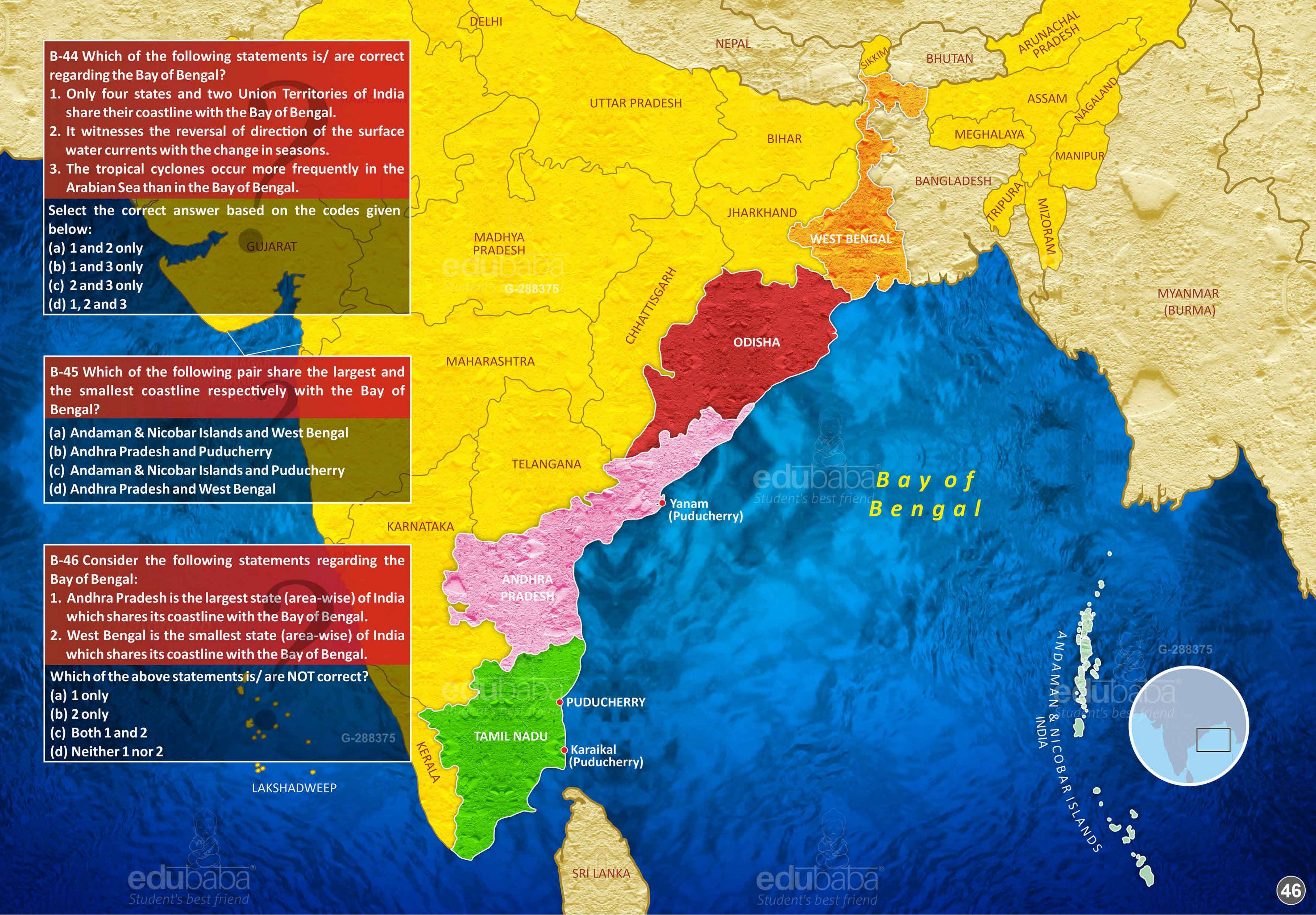
(a) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 only
(b) 2, 4, 5 and 6 only
(c) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only

B-43 Consider the following statements regarding the Arabian Sea:

1. The surface Monsoon Current in the Arabian Sea changes the flow of direction from anti-clockwise in the winters to clockwise in the summers.
2. The Chabahar Port of Afghanistan, which was built with the help of India, is situated in the Arabian Sea.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2


DELHI
NEPAL
SIKKIM
BHUTAN
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
UTTAR PRADESH
ASSAM
NAGALAND
BIHAR
MEGHALAYA
MANIPUR
BANGLADESH
TRIPURA
MIZORAM
JHARKHAND
WEST BENGAL
GUJARAT
MADHYA PRADESH
CHHATTISGARH
MYANMAR (BURMA)
ODISHA
MAHARASHTRA
TELANGANA
Bay of Bengal
Yanam (Puducherry)
KARNATAKA
ANDHRA PRADESH
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS INDIA
PUDUCHERRY
TAMIL NADU
Karaikal (Puducherry)
KERALA
LAKSHADWEEP
SRI LANKA

B-44 Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding the Bay of Bengal?

1. Only four states and two Union Territories of India share their coastline with the Bay of Bengal.
2. It witnesses the reversal of direction of the surface water currents with the change in seasons.
3. The tropical cyclones occur more frequently in the Arabian Sea than in the Bay of Bengal.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

B-45 Which of the following pair share the largest and the smallest coastline respectively with the Bay of Bengal?

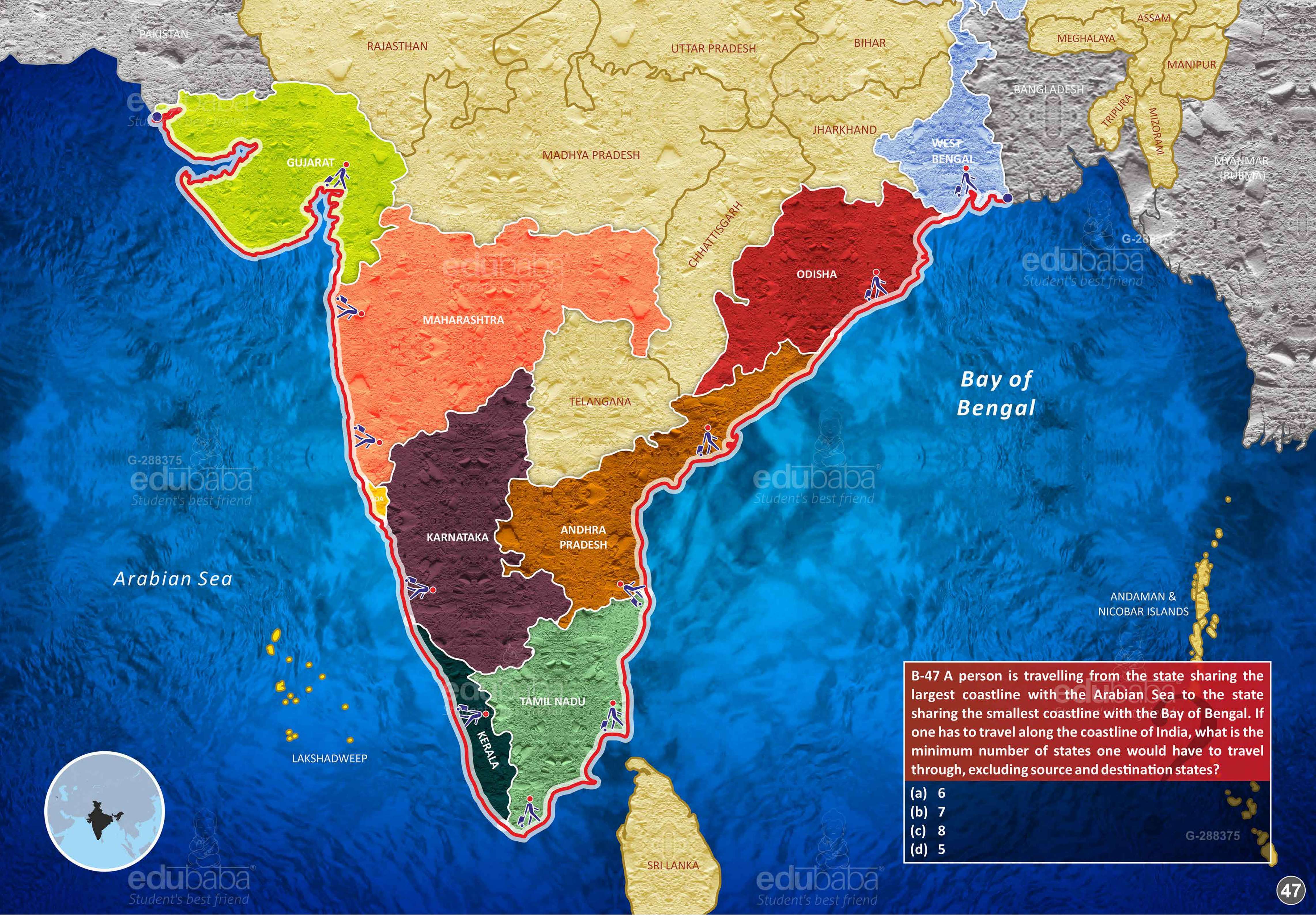
(a) Andaman & Nicobar Islands and West Bengal
(b) Andhra Pradesh and Puducherry
(c) Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry
(d) Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal

B-46 Consider the following statements regarding the Bay of Bengal:

1. Andhra Pradesh is the largest state (area-wise) of India which shares its coastline with the Bay of Bengal.
2. West Bengal is the smallest state (area-wise) of India which shares its coastline with the Bay of Bengal.

Which of the above statements is/ are NOT correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2


PAKISTAN
RAJASTHAN
UTTAR PRADESH
BIHAR
MEGHALAYA
ASSAM
MANIPUR
BANGLADESH
TRIPURA
MIZORAM
MYANMAR (BURMA)
JHARKHAND
WEST BENGAL
GUJARAT
MADHYA PRADESH
CHHATTISGARH
ODISHA
MAHARASHTRA
TELANGANA
Bay of Bengal
KARNATAKA
ANDHRA PRADESH
Arabian Sea
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS
TAMIL NADU
KERALA
LAKSHADWEEP
SRI LANKA

B-47 A person is travelling from the state sharing the largest coastline with the Arabian Sea to the state sharing the smallest coastline with the Bay of Bengal. If one has to travel along the coastline of India, what is the minimum number of states one would have to travel through, excluding source and destination states?

(a) 6

(b) 7

(c) 8

(d) 5

B-48 Consider the following directions:

1. North of the Borneo islands
2. East of the Sulu Sea
3. West of the Philippines Sea
4. North of the Java Sea
5. South of the Taiwan Strait

Which of the above-mentioned directions correctly depict the location of the South China Sea?

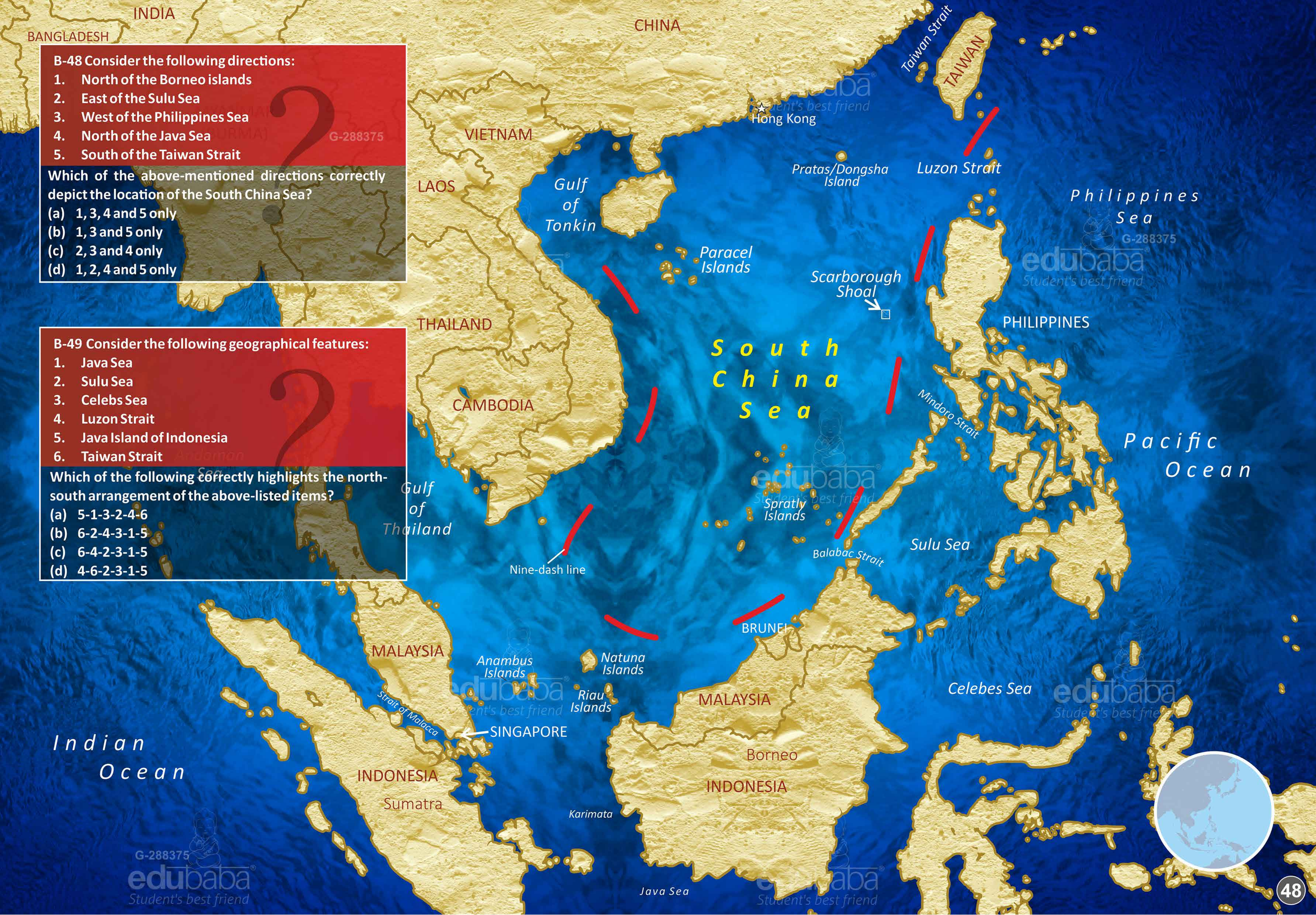
(a) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
(b) 1, 3 and 5 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only

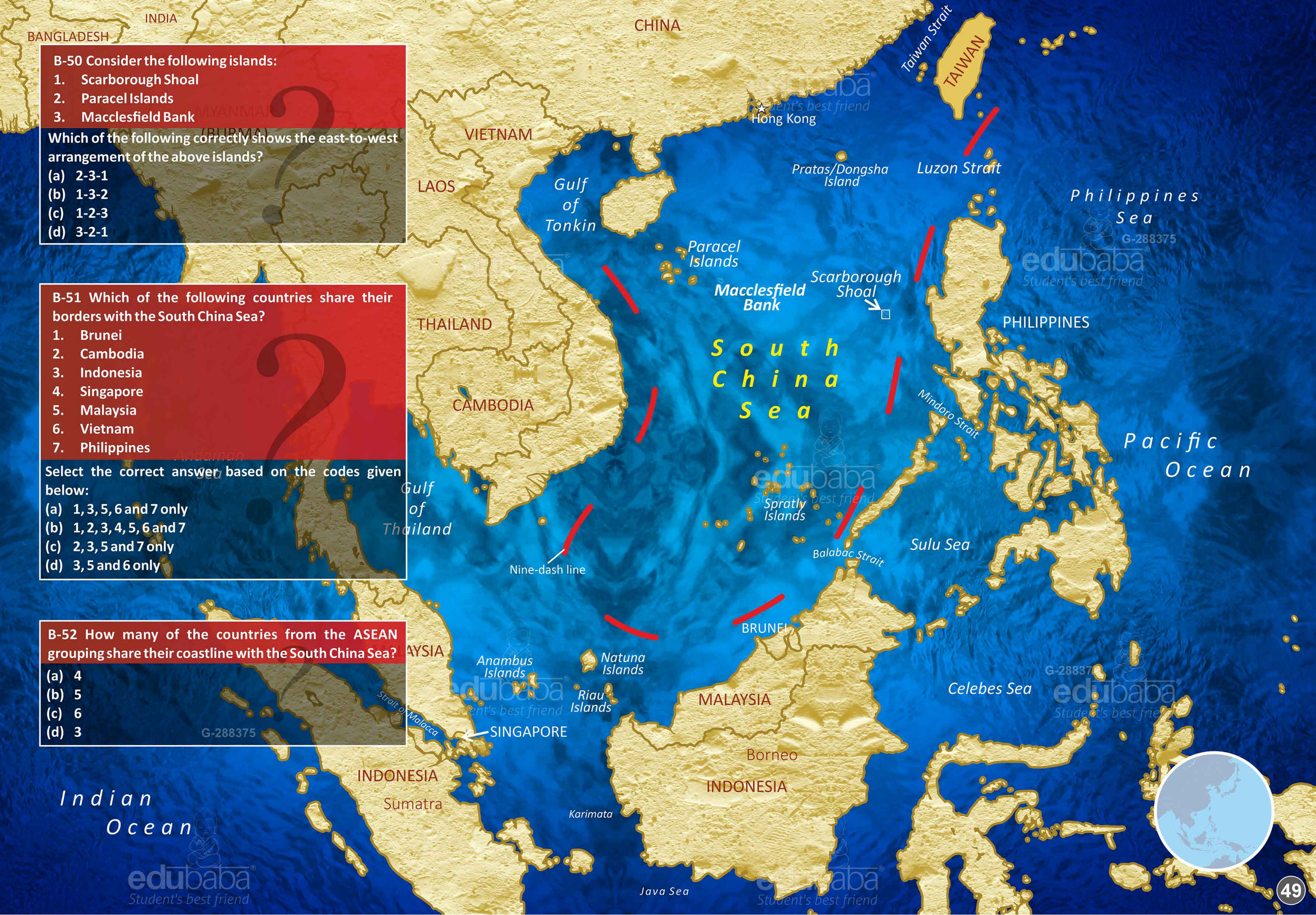
B-49 Consider the following geographical features:

1. Java Sea
2. Sulu Sea
3. Celebs Sea
4. Luzon Strait
5. Java Island of Indonesia
6. Taiwan Strait

Which of the following correctly highlights the north-south arrangement of the above-listed items?

(a) 5-1-3-2-4-6
(b) 6-2-4-3-1-5
(c) 6-4-2-3-1-5
(d) 4-6-2-3-1-5


INDIA
BANGLADESH
CHINA
Taiwan Strait
TAIWAN
Hong Kong
VIETNAM
LAOS
Gulf of Tonkin
Pratas/Dongsha Island
Luzon Strait
Philippines Sea
Paracel Islands
Scarborough Shoal
THAILAND
PHILIPPINES
South China Sea
CAMBODIA
Mindoro Strait
Pacific Ocean
Gulf of Thailand
Spratly Islands
Sulu Sea
Balabac Strait
Nine-dash line
BRUNEI
MALAYSIA
Anambus Islands
Natuna Islands
Riau Islands
Strait of Malacca
SINGAPORE
Celebes Sea
MALAYSIA
Borneo
INDONESIA
INDONESIA
Sumatra
Indian Ocean
Karimata
Java Sea


INDIA
BANGLADESH
CHINA
Taiwan Strait
TAIWAN
Hong Kong
MYANMAR (BURMA)
VIETNAM
LAOS
Gulf of Tonkin
Pratas/Dongsha Island
Luzon Strait
Philippines Sea
Paracel Islands
Macclesfield Bank
Scarborough Shoal
PHILIPPINES
THAILAND
South China Sea
CAMBODIA
Mindoro Strait
Pacific Ocean
Andaman Sea
Gulf of Thailand
Spratly Islands
Sulu Sea
Balabac Strait
Nine-dash line
BRUNEI
MALAYSIA
Anambus Islands
Natuna Islands
Riau Islands
Celebes Sea
Strait of Malacca
SINGAPORE
Borneo
INDONESIA
Sumatra
Karimata
Indian Ocean
Java Sea

B-50 Consider the following islands:

1. Scarborough Shoal
2. Paracel Islands
3. Macclesfield Bank

Which of the following correctly shows the east-to-west arrangement of the above islands?

(a) 2-3-1
(b) 1-3-2
(c) 1-2-3
(d) 3-2-1

B-51 Which of the following countries share their borders with the South China Sea?

1. Brunei
2. Cambodia
3. Indonesia
4. Singapore
5. Malaysia
6. Vietnam
7. Philippines

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1, 3, 5, 6 and 7 only
(b) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7
(c) 2, 3, 5 and 7 only
(d) 3, 5 and 6 only

B-52 How many of the countries from the ASEAN grouping share their coastline with the South China Sea?

(a) 4
(b) 5
(c) 6
(d) 3

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B-53 Consider the following statements regarding the South China Sea:

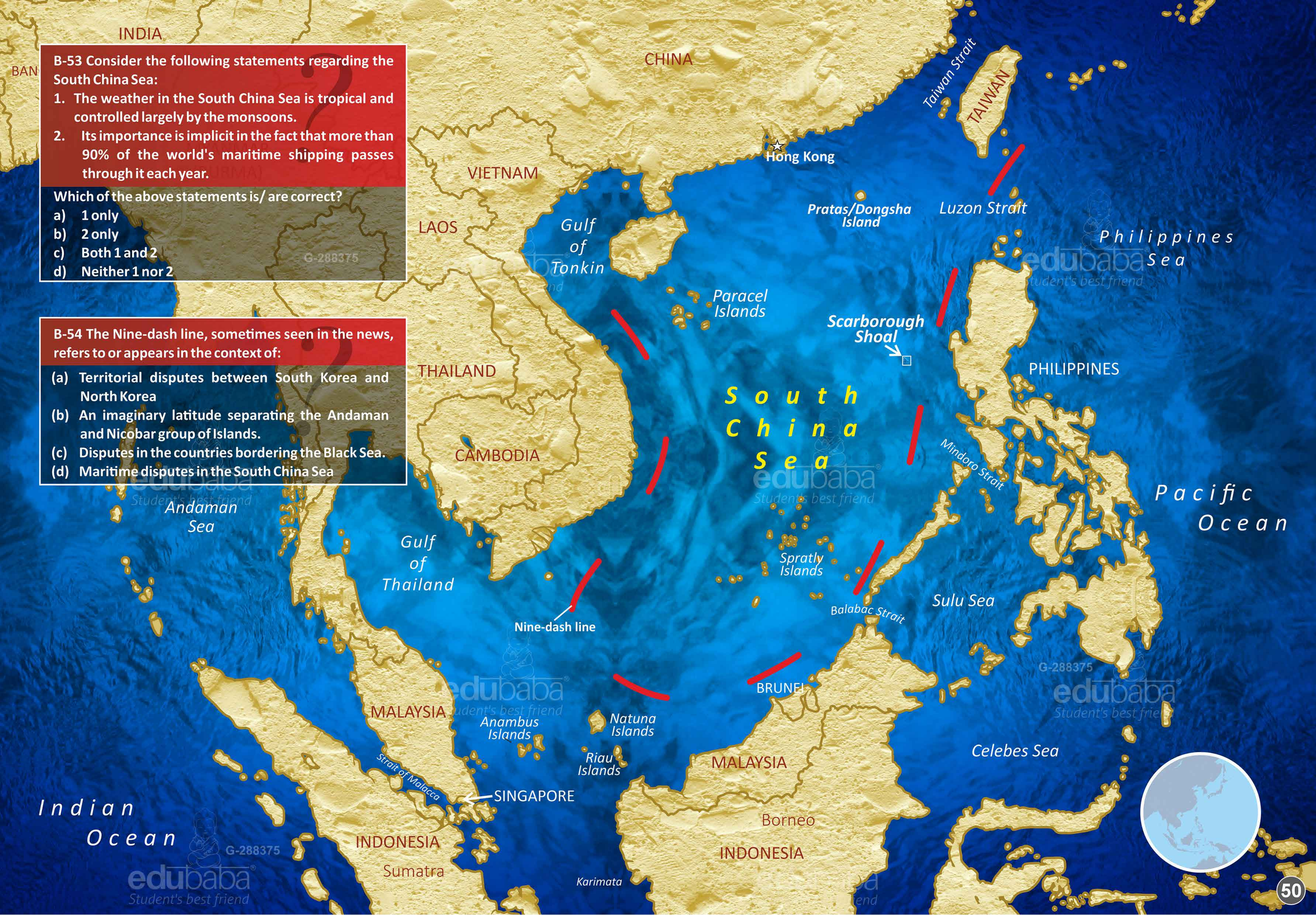
1. The weather in the South China Sea is tropical and controlled largely by the monsoons.
2. Its importance is implicit in the fact that more than 90% of the world's maritime shipping passes through it each year.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-54 The Nine-dash line, sometimes seen in the news, refers to or appears in the context of:

(a) Territorial disputes between South Korea and North Korea
(b) An imaginary latitude separating the Andaman and Nicobar group of Islands.
(c) Disputes in the countries bordering the Black Sea.
(d) Maritime disputes in the South China Sea


INDIA
BAN
CHINA
Taiwan Strait
TAIWAN
Hong Kong
VIETNAM
LAOS
Gulf of Tonkin
Pratas/Dongsha Island
Luzon Strait
Philippines Sea
Paracel Islands
Scarborough Shoal
PHILIPPINES
THAILAND
South China Sea
CAMBODIA
Mindoro Strait
Pacific Ocean
Andaman Sea
Gulf of Thailand
Spratly Islands
Balabac Strait
Sulu Sea
Nine-dash line
BRUNEI
MALAYSIA
Anambus Islands
Natuna Islands
Riau Islands
Celebes Sea
Strait of Malacca
SINGAPORE
MALAYSIA
Indian Ocean
INDONESIA
Sumatra
Borneo
INDONESIA
Karimata

B-55 Consider the following directions:

1. Northwest of the Philippines Sea
2. East of the Ryukyu Islands
3. North of the South China Sea
4. Southwest of the Kyushu Islands of Japan

Which of the above is/ are correct about the location of the East China Sea?

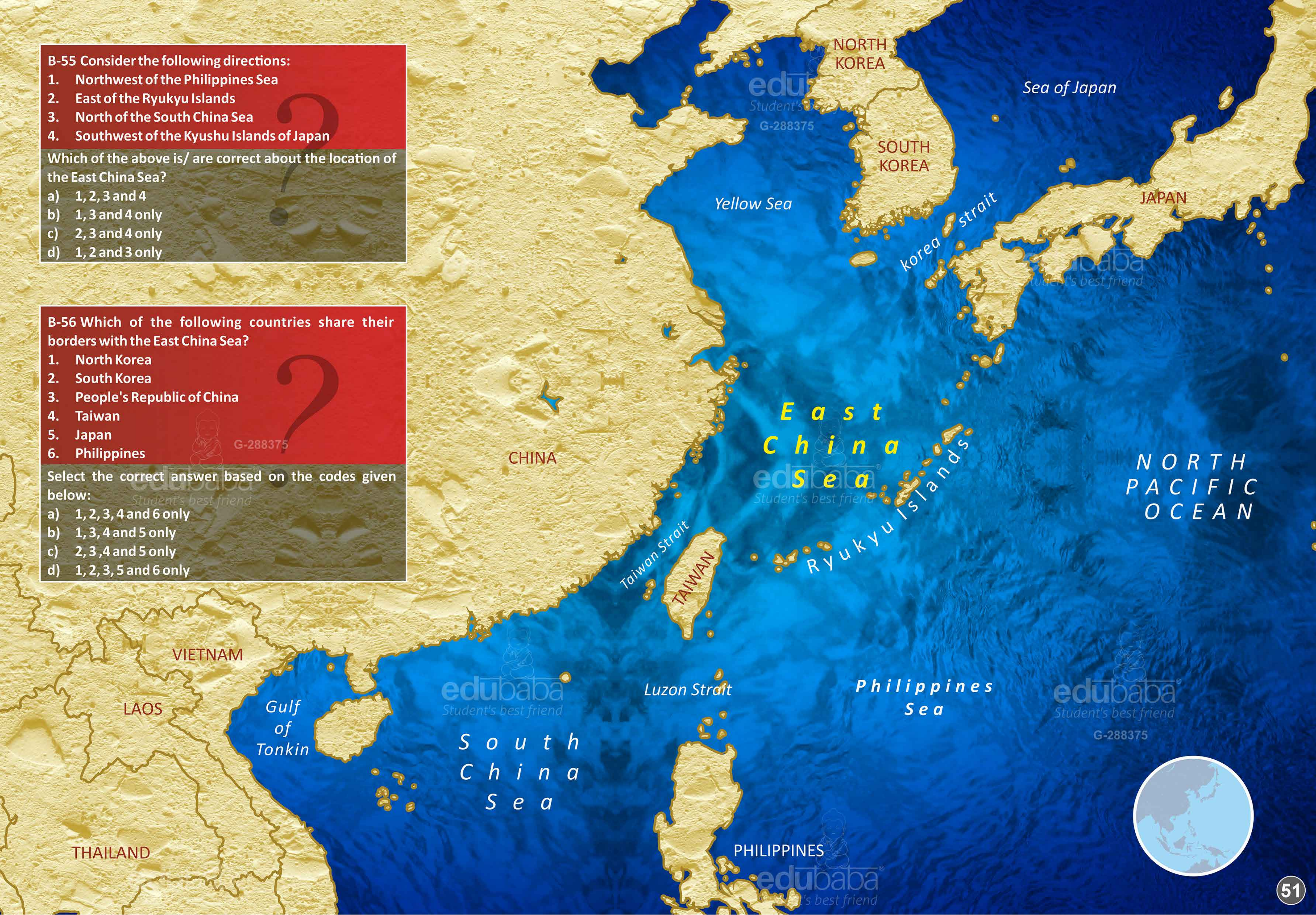
a) 1, 2, 3 and 4
b) 1, 3 and 4 only
c) 2, 3 and 4 only
d) 1, 2 and 3 only

B-56 Which of the following countries share their borders with the East China Sea?

1. North Korea
2. South Korea
3. People's Republic of China
4. Taiwan
5. Japan
6. Philippines

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

a) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 only
b) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
c) 2, 3 ,4 and 5 only
d) 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 only


NORTH KOREA
Sea of Japan
SOUTH KOREA
Yellow Sea
Korea Strait
JAPAN
East China Sea
CHINA
NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN
Ryukyu Islands
Taiwan Strait
TAIWAN
VIETNAM
LAOS
Gulf of Tonkin
Luzon Strait
Philippines Sea
South China Sea
THAILAND
PHILIPPINES

B-57 Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding the East China Sea?

1. The Senkaku Islands are found within the maritime boundaries of the East China Sea.
2. The Tropic of Cancer cut across the East China Sea in its southern extremity.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

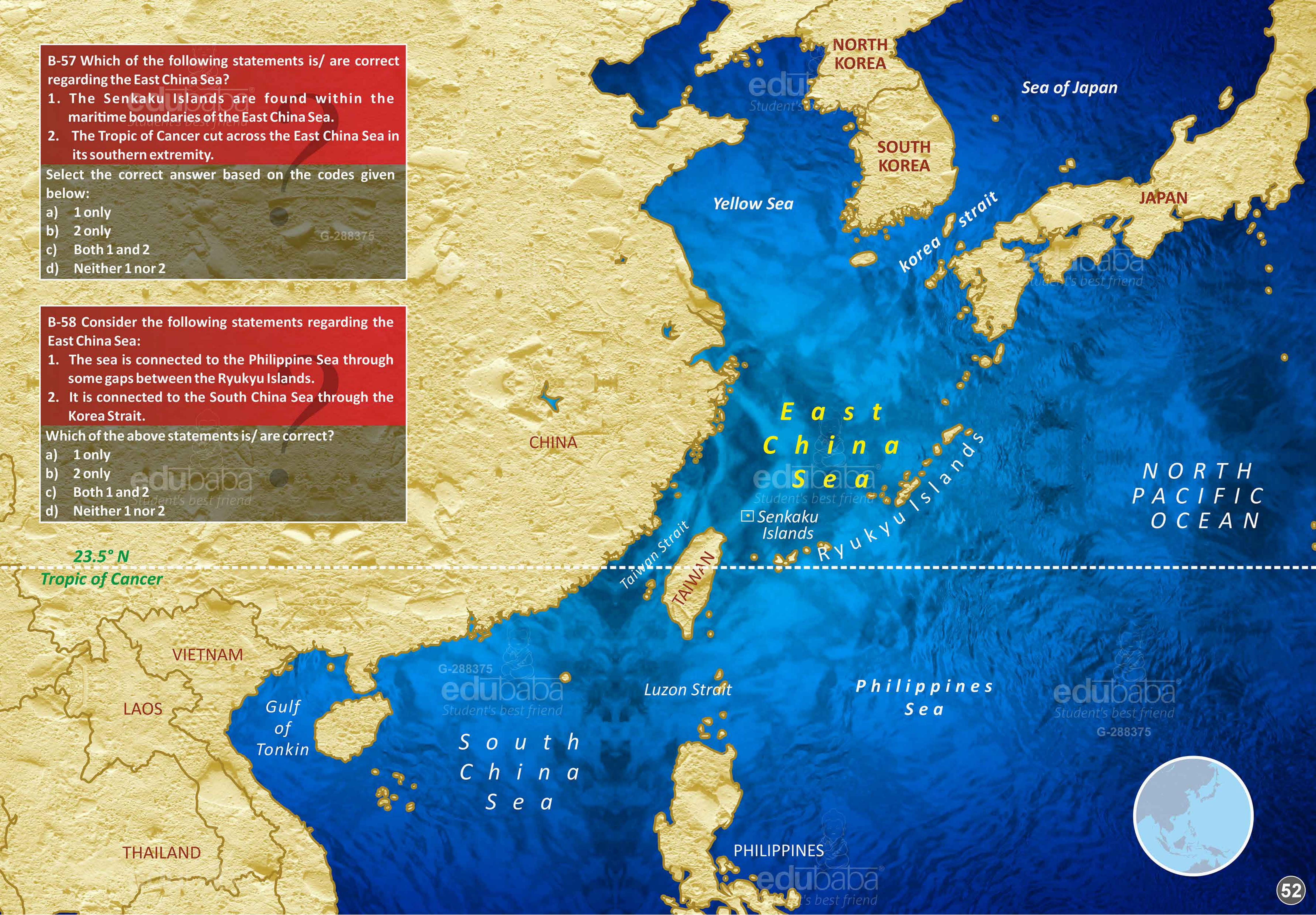
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

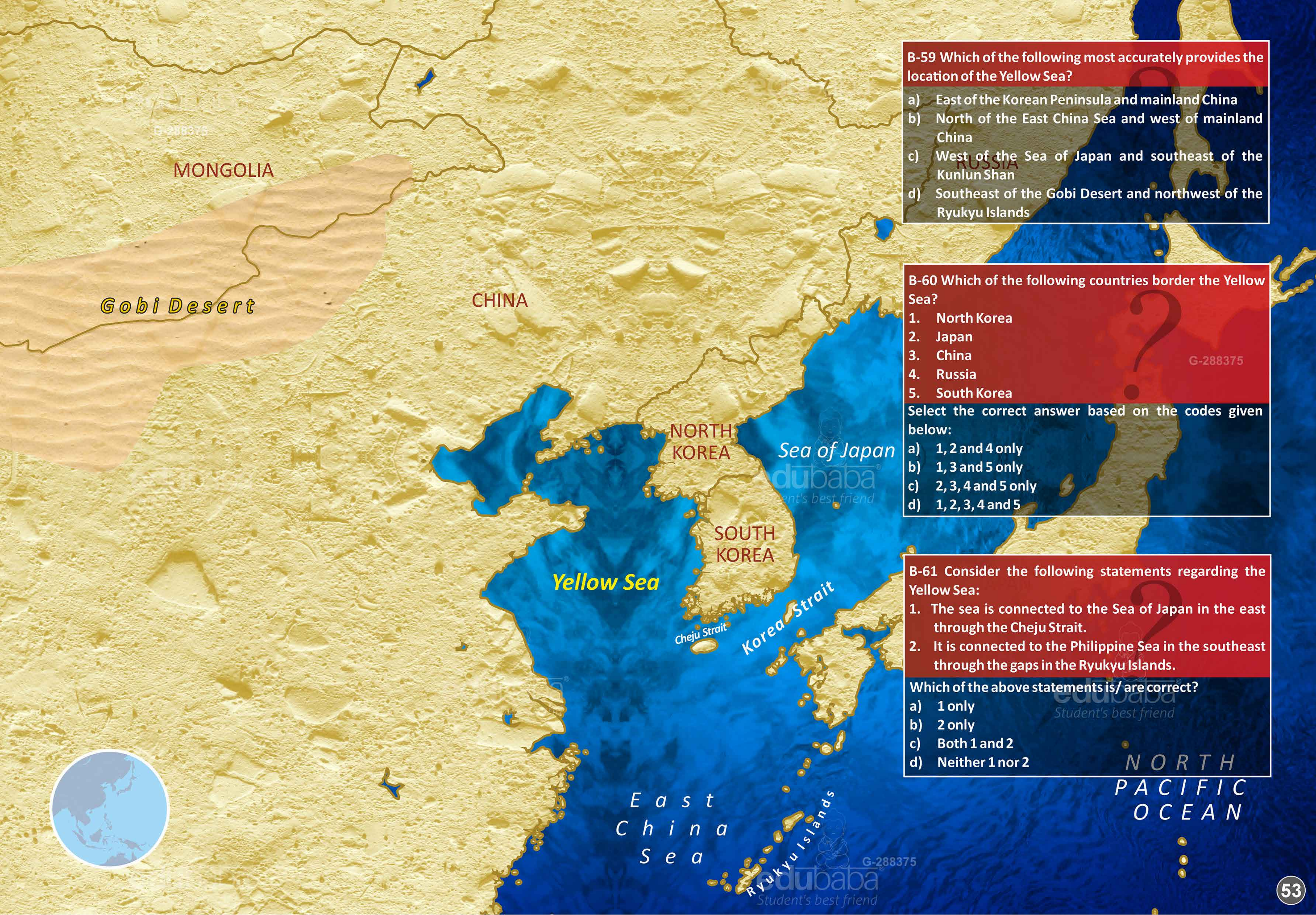
B-58 Consider the following statements regarding the East China Sea:

1. The sea is connected to the Philippine Sea through some gaps between the Ryukyu Islands.
2. It is connected to the South China Sea through the Korea Strait.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2


NORTH KOREA
Sea of Japan
SOUTH KOREA
Yellow Sea
JAPAN
korea strait
CHINA
East China Sea
Ryukyu Islands
NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN
Senkaku Islands
Taiwan Strait
TAIWAN
23.5° N
Tropic of Cancer
VIETNAM
LAOS
Gulf of Tonkin
Luzon Strait
Philippines Sea
South China Sea
THAILAND
PHILIPPINES


MONGOLIA
Gobi Desert
CHINA
RUSSIA
NORTH KOREA
SOUTH KOREA
Sea of Japan
Yellow Sea
Cheju Strait
Korea Strait
East China Sea
Ryukyu Islands
NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN

B-59 Which of the following most accurately provides the location of the Yellow Sea?

a) East of the Korean Peninsula and mainland China
b) North of the East China Sea and west of mainland China
c) West of the Sea of Japan and southeast of the Kunlun Shan
d) Southeast of the Gobi Desert and northwest of the Ryukyu Islands

B-60 Which of the following countries border the Yellow Sea?

1. North Korea
2. Japan
3. China
4. Russia
5. South Korea

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

a) 1, 2 and 4 only
b) 1, 3 and 5 only
c) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

B-61 Consider the following statements regarding the Yellow Sea:

1. The sea is connected to the Sea of Japan in the east through the Cheju Strait.
2. It is connected to the Philippine Sea in the southeast through the gaps in the Ryukyu Islands.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

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B-62 Which of the following directions provide for the correct location of the Sea of Japan in the Pacific Ocean?

1. Southwest of the Sea of Okhotsk
2. West of the Yellow Sea
3. Northeast of the East China Sea
4. East of the Korean Peninsula
5. Southeast of the Bering Sea

Select the correct alternative based on the codes given below:

a) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
b) 3, 4 and 5 only
c) 1, 3 and 4 only
d) 1, 2 and 5 only

B-63 Consider the following statements regarding the Sea of Japan:

1. In its northeast, the sea is connected to the Sea of Okhotsk via the Tartary Strait and in the north via La Perouse Strait.
2. It is connected to the Pacific Ocean via gaps between the Japanese archipelago.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

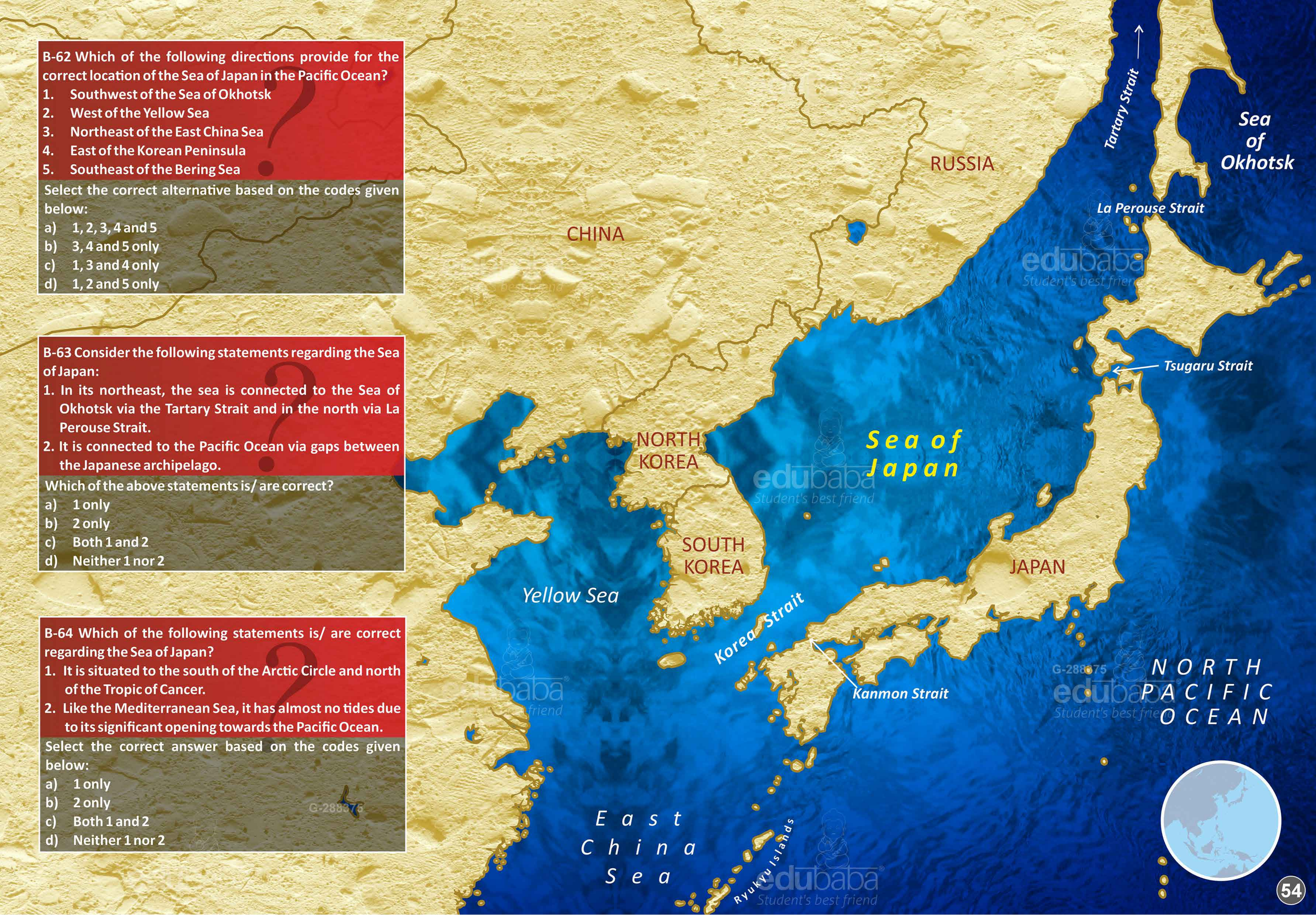
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-64 Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding the Sea of Japan?

1. It is situated to the south of the Arctic Circle and north of the Tropic of Cancer.
2. Like the Mediterranean Sea, it has almost no tides due to its significant opening towards the Pacific Ocean.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2


Tartary Strait
Sea of Okhotsk
RUSSIA
La Perouse Strait
CHINA
Tsugaru Strait
NORTH KOREA
Sea of Japan
SOUTH KOREA
JAPAN
Yellow Sea
Korea Strait
Kanmon Strait
NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN
East China Sea
Ryukyu Islands

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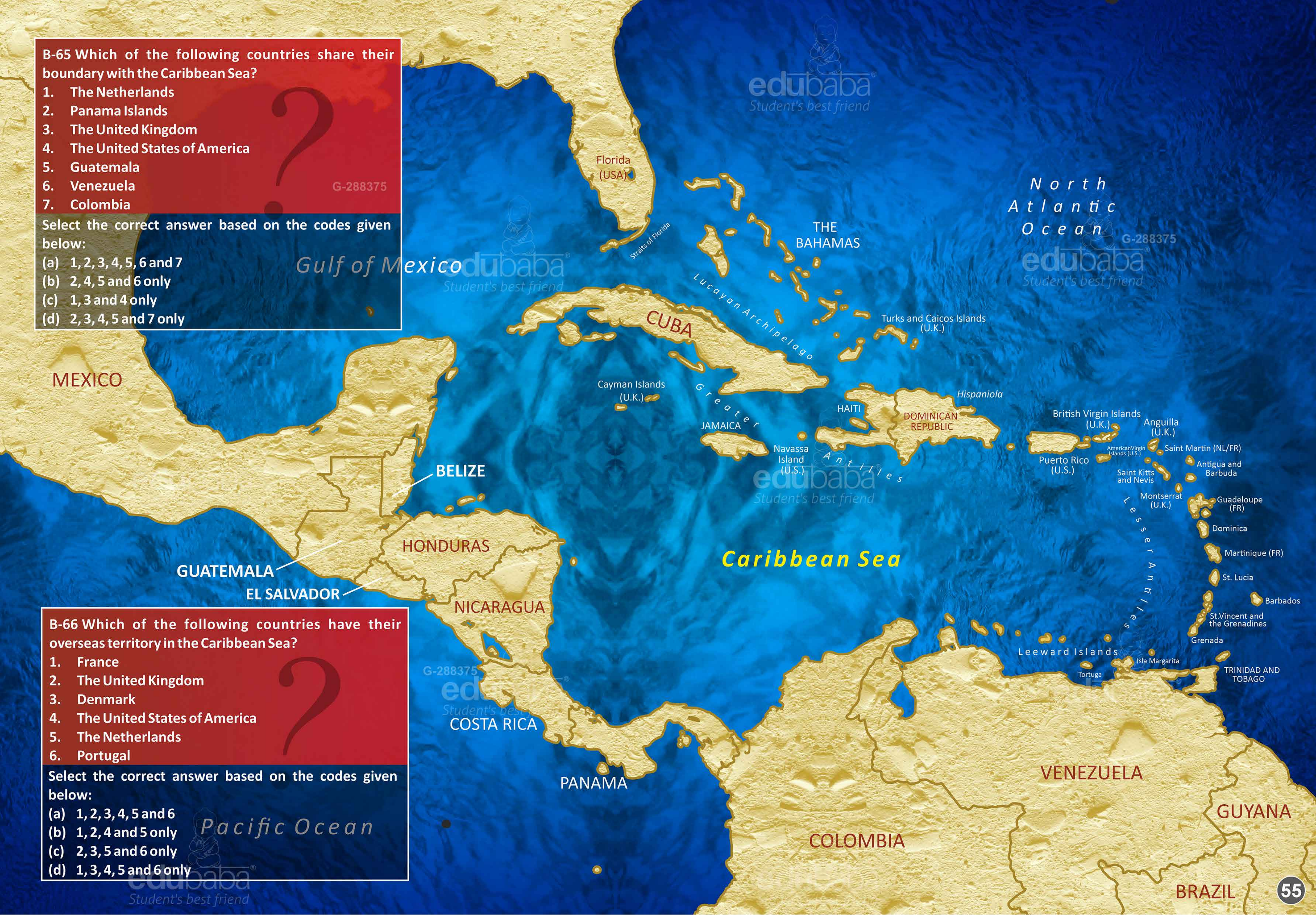
B-65 Which of the following countries share their boundary with the Caribbean Sea?

1. The Netherlands
2. Panama Islands
3. The United Kingdom
4. The United States of America
5. Guatemala
6. Venezuela
7. Colombia

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7
(b) 2, 4, 5 and 6 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 only

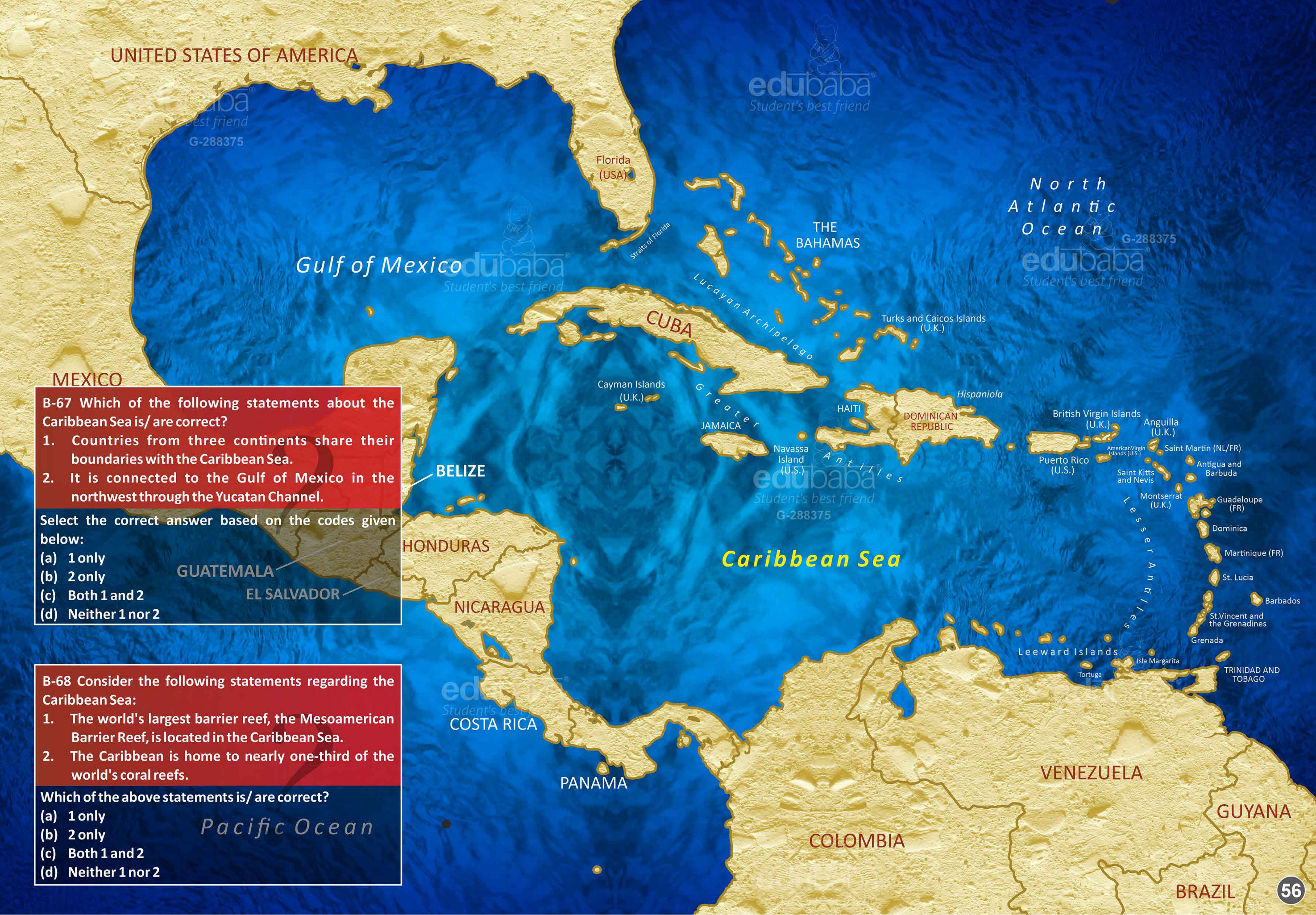

Florida (USA)
Straits of Florida
THE BAHAMAS
North Atlantic Ocean
Gulf of Mexico
Lucayan Archipelago
CUBA
Turks and Caicos Islands (U.K.)
MEXICO
Cayman Islands (U.K.)
Greater Antilles
Hispaniola
HAITI
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
JAMAICA
Navassa Island (U.S.)
British Virgin Islands (U.K.)
Anguilla (U.K.)
AmericanVirgin Islands (U.S.)
Saint Martin (NL/FR)
Puerto Rico (U.S.)
Antigua and Barbuda
Saint Kitts and Nevis
BELIZE
Montserrat (U.K.)
Guadeloupe (FR)
Lesser Antilles
Dominica
HONDURAS
Caribbean Sea
Martinique (FR)
GUATEMALA
St. Lucia
EL SALVADOR
NICARAGUA
Barbados
St.Vincent and the Grenadines
Grenada
Leeward Islands
Isla Margarita
Tortuga
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
COSTA RICA
PANAMA
VENEZUELA
GUYANA
Pacific Ocean
COLOMBIA
BRAZIL

B-66 Which of the following countries have their overseas territory in the Caribbean Sea?

1. France
2. The United Kingdom
3. Denmark
4. The United States of America
5. The Netherlands
6. Portugal

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6
(b) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
(c) 2, 3, 5 and 6 only
(d) 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only


UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Florida (USA)
Straits of Florida
Gulf of Mexico
THE BAHAMAS
Lucayan Archipelago
North Atlantic Ocean
Turks and Caicos Islands (U.K.)
CUBA
Cayman Islands (U.K.)
Greater Antilles
HAITI
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
Hispaniola
JAMAICA
Navassa Island (U.S.)
British Virgin Islands (U.K.)
Anguilla (U.K.)
AmericanVirgin Islands (U.S.)
Saint Martin (NL/FR)
Puerto Rico (U.S.)
Antigua and Barbuda
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Montserrat (U.K.)
Guadeloupe (FR)
Dominica
Lesser Antilles
Martinique (FR)
St. Lucia
Barbados
St.Vincent and the Grenadines
Grenada
Leeward Islands
Isla Margarita
Tortuga
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
MEXICO
BELIZE
HONDURAS
GUATEMALA
EL SALVADOR
NICARAGUA
COSTA RICA
PANAMA
Caribbean Sea
Pacific Ocean
VENEZUELA
GUYANA
COLOMBIA
BRAZIL

B-67 Which of the following statements about the Caribbean Sea is/ are correct?

1. Countries from three continents share their boundaries with the Caribbean Sea.
2. It is connected to the Gulf of Mexico in the northwest through the Yucatan Channel.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

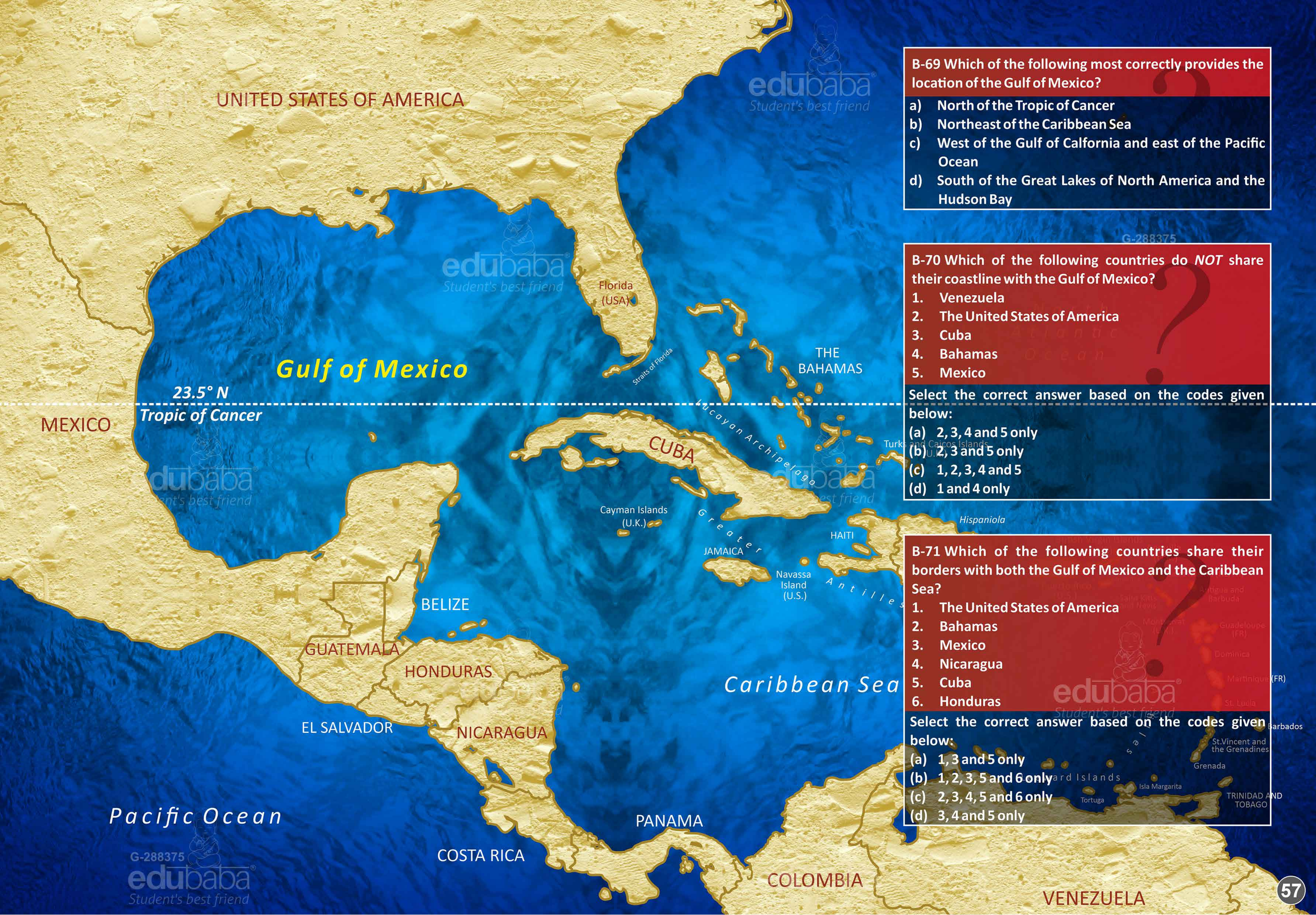
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-68 Consider the following statements regarding the Caribbean Sea:

1. The world's largest barrier reef, the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef, is located in the Caribbean Sea.
2. The Caribbean is home to nearly one-third of the world's coral reefs.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2


UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Gulf of Mexico
23.5° N
Tropic of Cancer
MEXICO
Florida (USA)
Straits of Florida
THE BAHAMAS
Lucayan Archipelago
Atlantic Ocean
Turks and Caicos Islands (U.K.)
CUBA
Cayman Islands (U.K.)
Greater Antilles
JAMAICA
HAITI
Hispaniola
Navassa Island (U.S.)
BELIZE
GUATEMALA
HONDURAS
EL SALVADOR
NICARAGUA
Caribbean Sea
Antigua and Barbuda
Guadeloupe (FR)
Dominica
Martinique (FR)
St. Lucia
Barbados
St.Vincent and the Grenadines
Grenada
Leeward Islands
Isla Margarita
Tortuga
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
Pacific Ocean
PANAMA
COSTA RICA
COLOMBIA
VENEZUELA

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B-69 Which of the following most correctly provides the location of the Gulf of Mexico?

a) North of the Tropic of Cancer
b) Northeast of the Caribbean Sea
c) West of the Gulf of Calfornia and east of the Pacific Ocean
d) South of the Great Lakes of North America and the Hudson Bay

B-70 Which of the following countries do *NOT* share their coastline with the Gulf of Mexico?

1. Venezuela
2. The United States of America
3. Cuba
4. Bahamas
5. Mexico

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

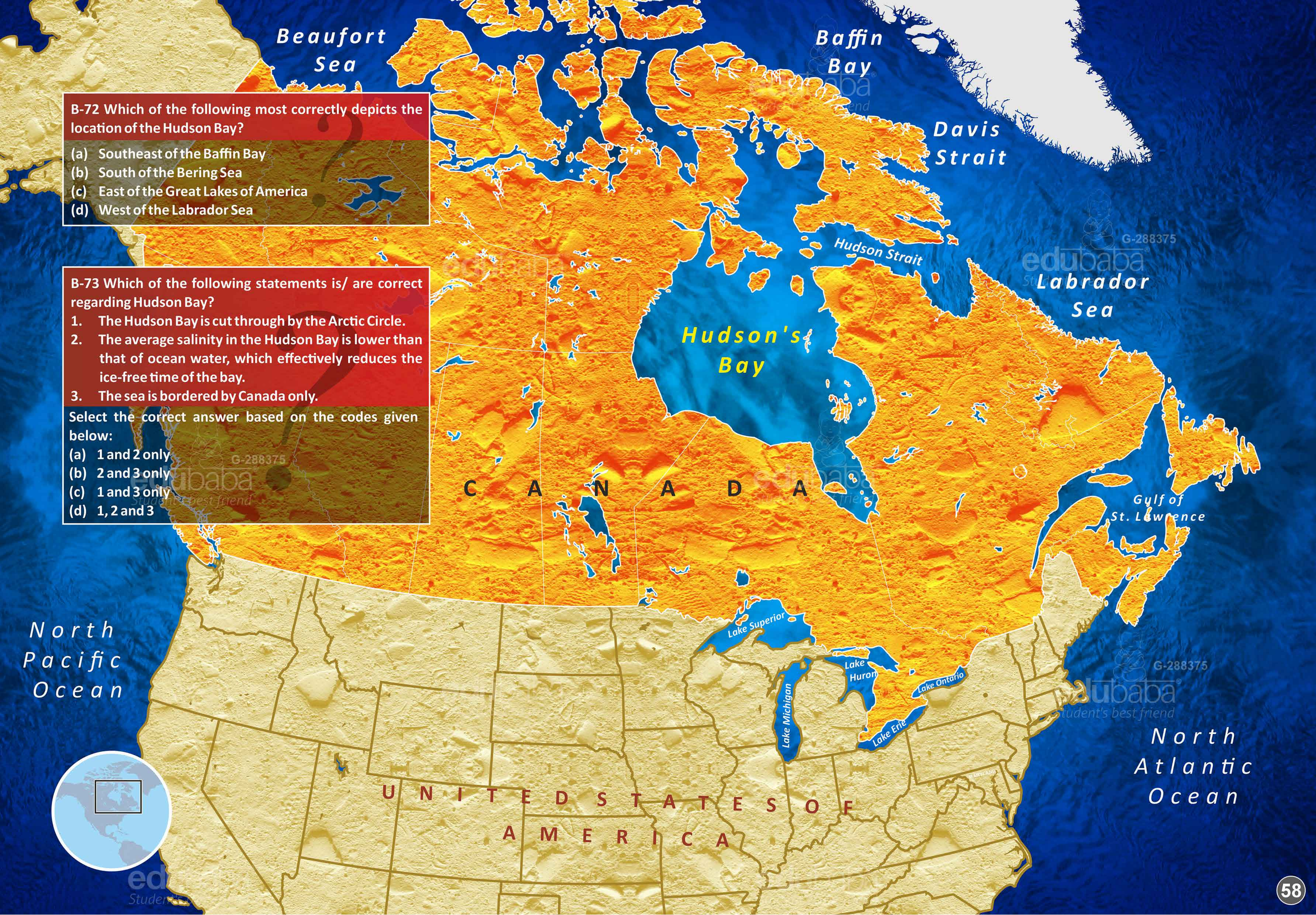
(a) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
(b) 2, 3 and 5 only
(c) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
(d) 1 and 4 only

B-71 Which of the following countries share their borders with both the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea?

1. The United States of America
2. Bahamas
3. Mexico
4. Nicaragua
5. Cuba
6. Honduras

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1, 3 and 5 only
(b) 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 only
(c) 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only
(d) 3, 4 and 5 only



B-72 Which of the following most correctly depicts the location of the Hudson Bay?

(a) Southeast of the Baffin Bay
(b) South of the Bering Sea
(c) East of the Great Lakes of America
(d) West of the Labrador Sea

B-73 Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding Hudson Bay?

1. The Hudson Bay is cut through by the Arctic Circle.
2. The average salinity in the Hudson Bay is lower than that of ocean water, which effectively reduces the ice-free time of the bay.
3. The sea is bordered by Canada only.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Beaufort Sea
Baffin Bay
Davis Strait
Hudson Strait
Labrador Sea
Hudson's Bay
CANADA
Gulf of St. Lawrence
North Pacific Ocean
North Atlantic Ocean
Lake Superior
Lake Michigan
Lake Huron
Lake Ontario
Lake Erie
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

B-74 Consider the following directions:

1. South of Coral Sea
2. West of New Zealand
3. North of the Shrieking Sixties
4. East of the southern part of Great Dividing Range

Which of the above directions correctly depict the location of the Tasman Sea?

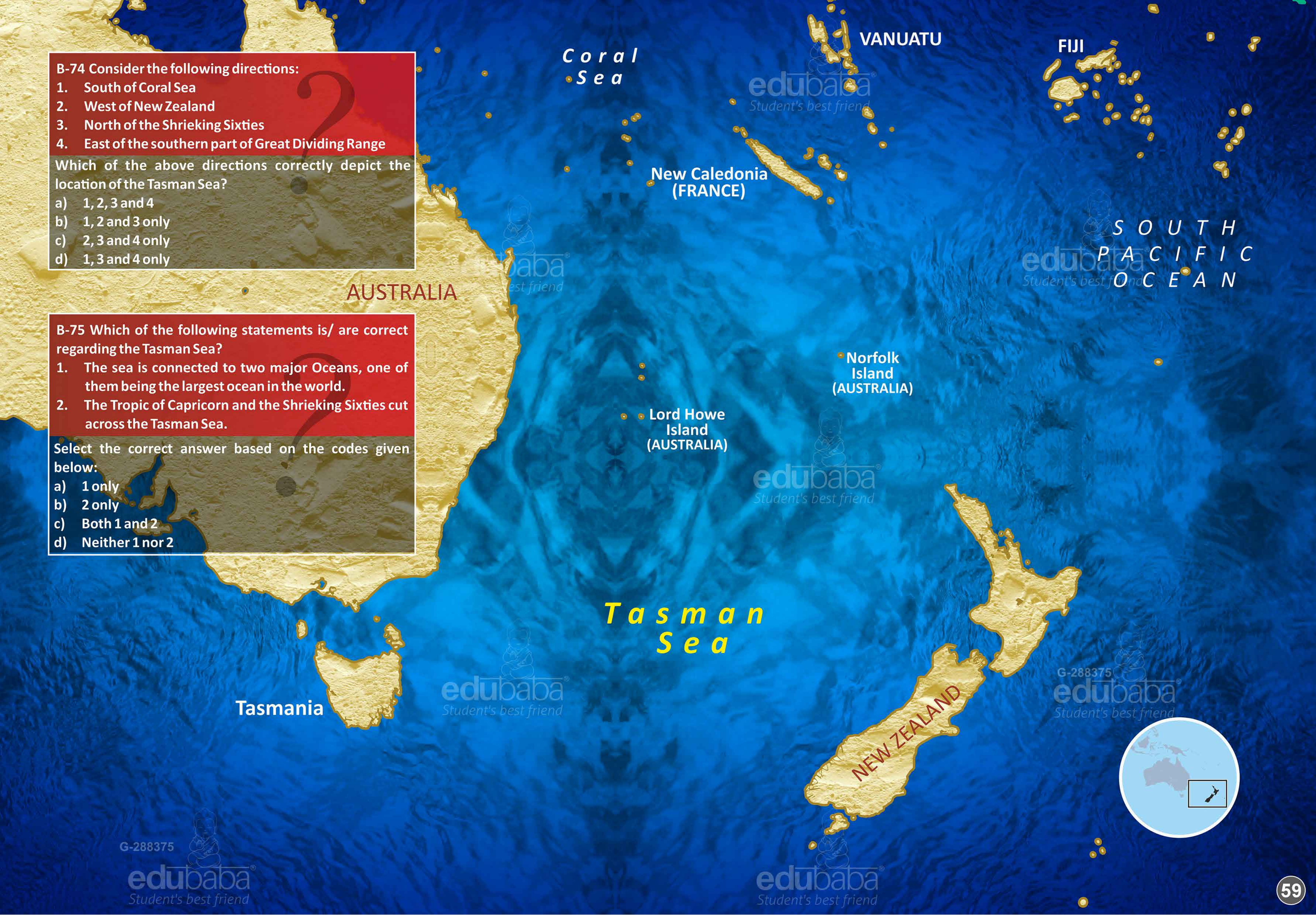
a) 1, 2, 3 and 4
b) 1, 2 and 3 only
c) 2, 3 and 4 only
d) 1, 3 and 4 only

B-75 Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding the Tasman Sea?

1. The sea is connected to two major Oceans, one of them being the largest ocean in the world.
2. The Tropic of Capricorn and the Shrieking Sixties cut across the Tasman Sea.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2


Coral Sea
VANUATU
FIJI
New Caledonia (FRANCE)
SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN
AUSTRALIA
Norfolk Island (AUSTRALIA)
Lord Howe Island (AUSTRALIA)
Tasman Sea
NEW ZEALAND
Tasmania

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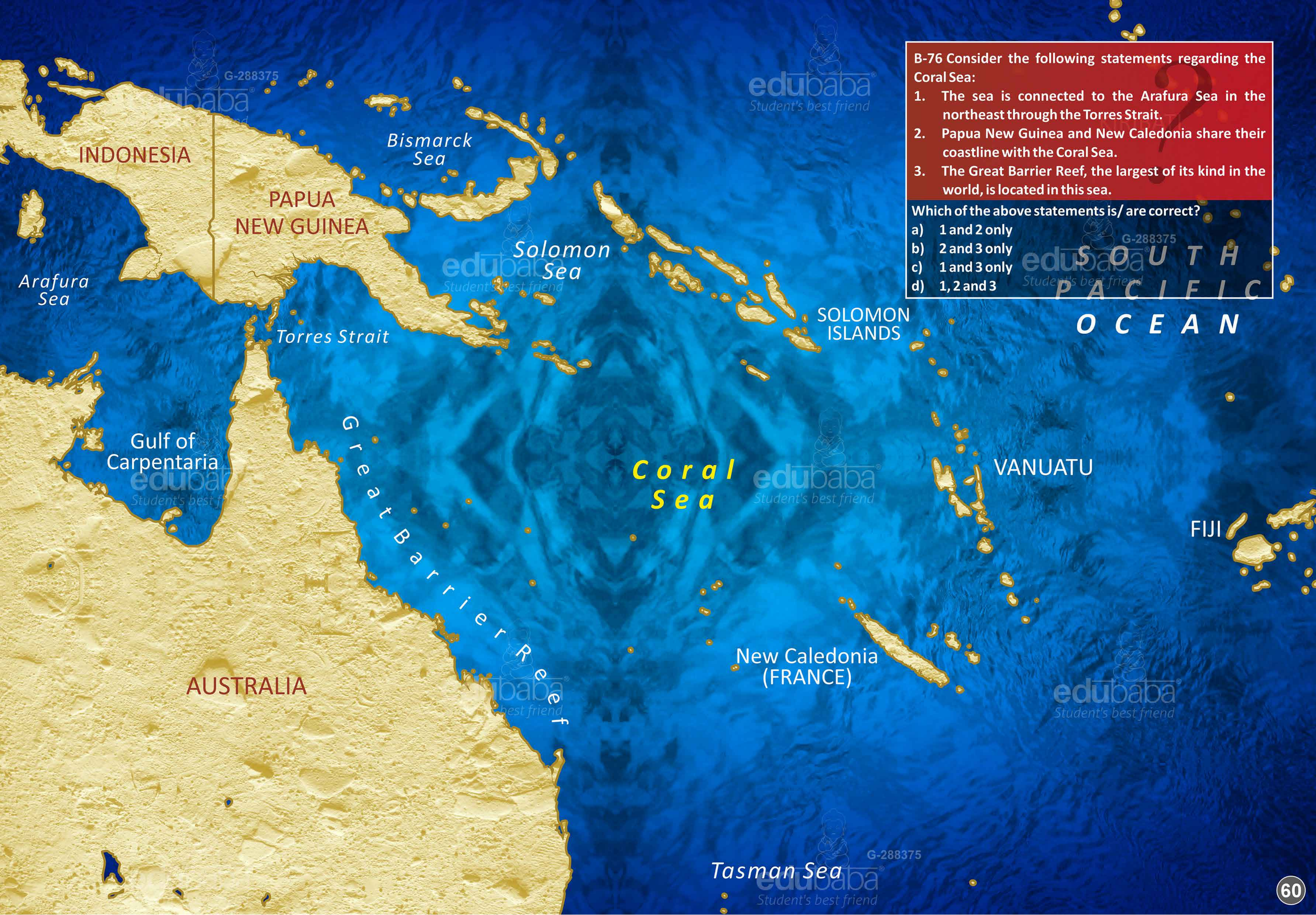
INDONESIA
PAPUA NEW GUINEA
Bismarck Sea
Solomon Sea
Arafura Sea
Torres Strait
SOLOMON ISLANDS
SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN
Gulf of Carpentaria
Great Barrier Reef
Coral Sea
VANUATU
FIJI
New Caledonia (FRANCE)
AUSTRALIA
Tasman Sea

B-76 Consider the following statements regarding the Coral Sea:

1. **The sea is connected to the Arafura Sea in the northeast through the Torres Strait.**
2. **Papua New Guinea and New Caledonia share their coastline with the Coral Sea.**
3. **The Great Barrier Reef, the largest of its kind in the world, is located in this sea.**

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

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B-77 Which of the following could be seen in the Bering Sea?

1. Gulf of Alaska
2. Bristol Bay
3. Siberian Sea
4. International Date Line
5. Arctic Circle
6. Chukchi Sea

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

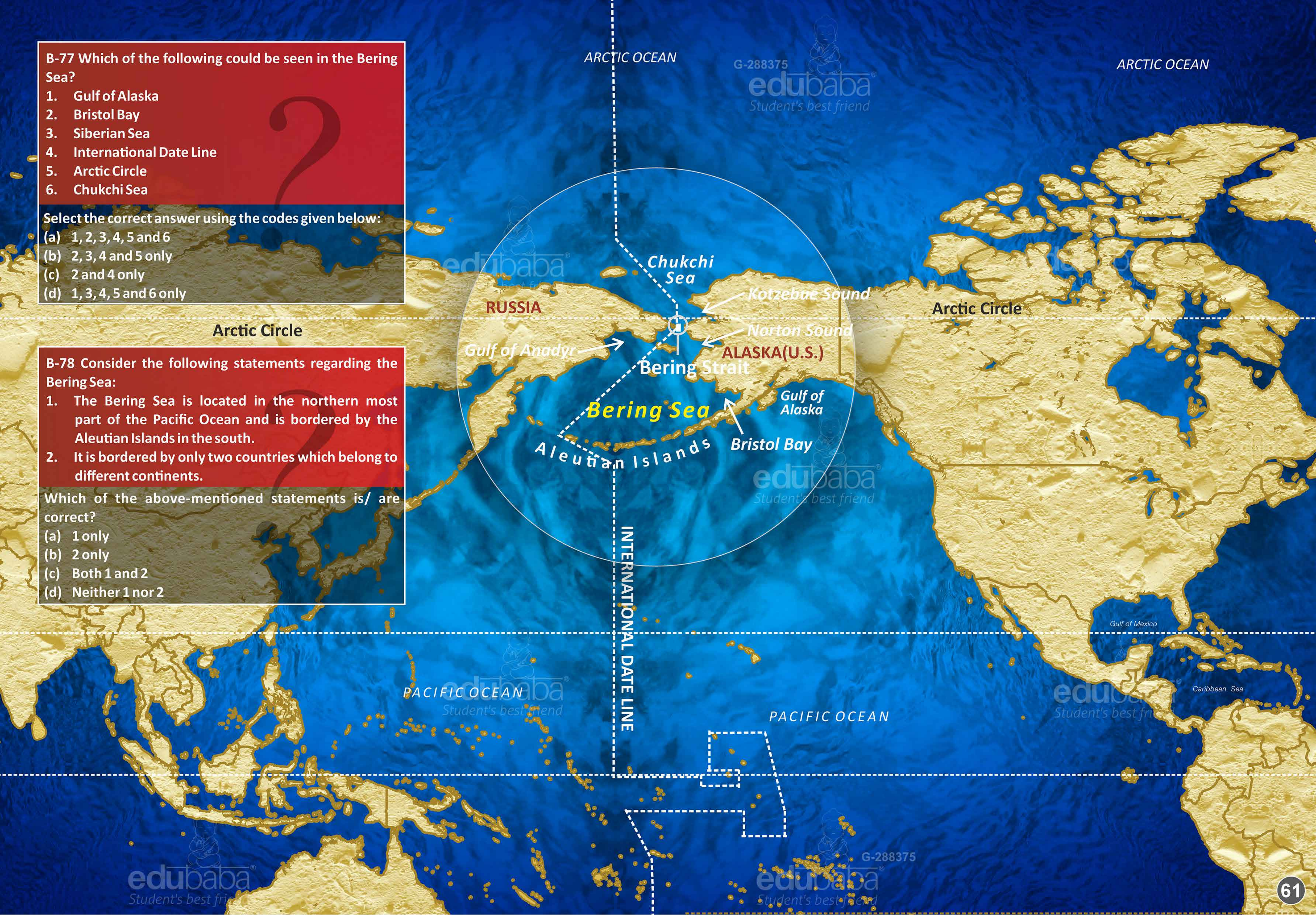
(a) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6
(b) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only

B-78 Consider the following statements regarding the Bering Sea:

1. The Bering Sea is located in the northern most part of the Pacific Ocean and is bordered by the Aleutian Islands in the south.
2. It is bordered by only two countries which belong to different continents.

Which of the above-mentioned statements is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2


ARCTIC OCEAN
ARCTIC OCEAN
Chukchi Sea
Kotzebue Sound
RUSSIA
Arctic Circle
Arctic Circle
Norton Sound
Gulf of Anadyr
ALASKA(U.S.)
Bering Strait
Gulf of Alaska
Bering Sea
Bristol Bay
Aleutian Islands
INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE
Gulf of Mexico
Caribbean Sea
PACIFIC OCEAN
PACIFIC OCEAN

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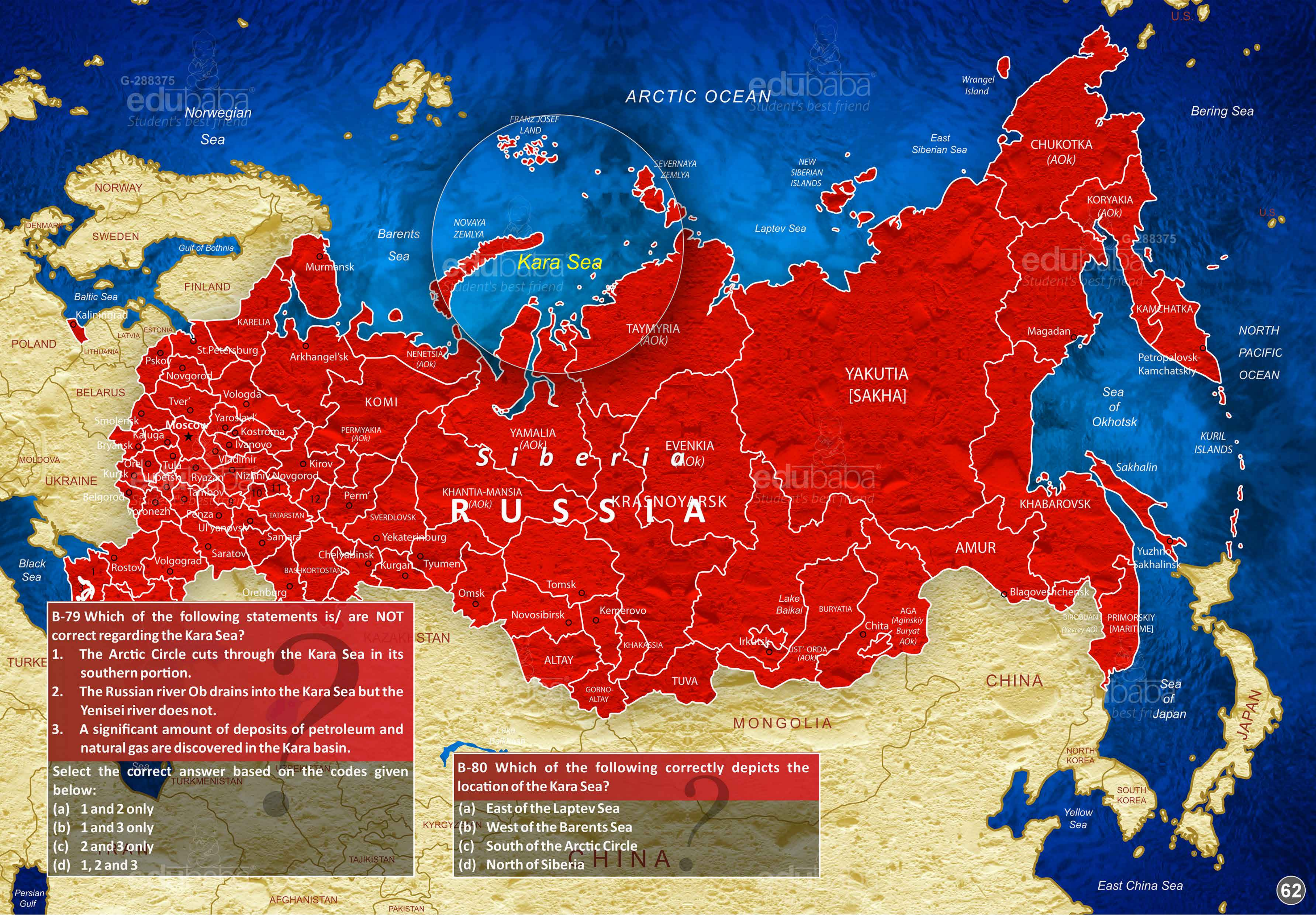
ARCTIC OCEAN
Norwegian Sea
Barents Sea
Kara Sea
FRANZ JOSEF LAND
SEVERNAYA ZEMLYA
NOVAYA ZEMLYA
NEW SIBERIAN ISLANDS
Laptev Sea
East Siberian Sea
Wrangel Island
Bering Sea
U.S.
CHUKOTKA (AOk)
KORYAKIA (AOk)
KAMCHATKA
Magadan
Petropalovsk-Kamchatskiy
NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN
Sea of Okhotsk
KURIL ISLANDS
Sakhalin
Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk
KHABAROVSK
AMUR
Blagoveshchensk
BIROBIJAN (Yevrey AO)
PRIMORSKIY [MARITIME]
Sea of Japan
JAPAN
NORTH KOREA
SOUTH KOREA
Yellow Sea
East China Sea
YAKUTIA [SAKHA]
TAYMYRIA (AOk)
EVENKIA (AOk)
YAMALIA (AOk)
KRASNOYARSK
Siberia
RUSSIA
KHANTIA-MANSIA (AOk)
NENETSIA (AOk)
KOMI
PERMYAKIA (AOk)
Lake Baikal
BURYATIA
AGA (Aginskiy Buryat AOk)
Chita
Irkutsk
UST'-ORDA (AOk)
TUVA
KHAKASSIA
ALTAY
GORNO-ALTAY
Kemerovo
Novosibirsk
Tomsk
Omsk
Tyumen
Kurgan
Yekaterinburg
SVERDLOVSK
Chelyabinsk
BASHKORTOSTAN
Orenburg
Perm'
Kirov
TATARSTAN
Samara
Ul'yanovsk
Saratov
Volgograd
Rostov
Penza
Tambov
Voronezh
Belgorod
Kursk
Orel
Tula
Lipetsk
Ryazan'
Nizhniy Novgorod
Vladimir
Ivanovo
Kostroma
Yaroslavl'
Moscow
Kaluga
Bryansk
Smolensk
Tver'
Vologda
Novgorod
Pskov
St.Petersburg
KARELIA
Arkhangel'sk
Murmansk
Kaliningrad
10
11
12
1
NORWAY
SWEDEN
FINLAND
DENMARK
Gulf of Bothnia
Baltic Sea
ESTONIA
LATVIA
LITHUANIA
POLAND
BELARUS
UKRAINE
MOLDOVA
Black Sea
TURKEY
KAZAKHSTAN
UZBEKISTAN
TURKMENISTAN
KYRGYZSTAN
TAJIKISTAN
AFGHANISTAN
PAKISTAN
IRAN
Persian Gulf
MONGOLIA
CHINA
Lake Balkhash
Sea

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B-79 Which of the following statements is/ are NOT correct regarding the Kara Sea?

1. The Arctic Circle cuts through the Kara Sea in its southern portion.
2. The Russian river Ob drains into the Kara Sea but the Yenisei river does not.
3. A significant amount of deposits of petroleum and natural gas are discovered in the Kara basin.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

B-80 Which of the following correctly depicts the location of the Kara Sea?

(a) East of the Laptev Sea
(b) West of the Barents Sea
(c) South of the Arctic Circle
(d) North of Siberia

SOLUTIONS
& EXPLANATIONS

A-1 The Correct Answer is: a) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Explanation: **G5 Sahel or G5S** is an **institutional framework** for coordination of regional cooperation in development policies and security matters in west Africa.

- It was formed on 16 February 2014 in Nouakchott, Mauritania, at a summit of **five Sahel countries: Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger.**
- It adopted a convention of establishment on 19 December 2014, and is permanently seated in **Mauritania.**
- The purpose of G5 Sahel is to strengthen the bond between **economic development** and **security,** and together battle the threat of jihadist organizations operating in the region.

A-2 The Correct Answer is: d) All of the above

Explanation: The **Sahel** is the **ecoclimatic and biogeographic realm of transition in Africa** between the **Sahara** to the north and the **Sudanian savanna** to the south.

- Having a **semi-arid climate,** it stretches across the south-central latitudes of **Northern Africa** between the **Atlantic Ocean** and the **Red Sea.**
- The Sahel part of Africa includes from west to east parts of northern **Senegal,** southern **Mauritania,** central **Mali,** northern **Burkina Faso,** the extreme south of **Algeria, Niger,** the extreme north of **Nigeria,** the extreme north of **Cameroon** and central **Chad,** central and southern **Sudan,** the extreme north of **South Sudan, Eritrea.**
- ***Some of the sources also includes*** *- Central African Republic & the extreme north of Ethiopia. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sahel)*

Significance: *The Sahel region has experienced several coups since August 2020 in countries plagued by jihadist violence, before the current one in Niger.*

- *Historical Context: Niger was a French colony until it gained independence in 1960. The country experienced a series of military coups and political instability in the decades following independence.*

Climate: Desert, mostly hot, dry, dusty, tropical in extreme south.

Economy: Niger is one of the world's poorest countries and faces challenges related to poverty, food security, and underdevelopment. However, it has significant natural resources, including gold mining reserves and a significant share of global uranium production.

The economy is largely agrarian, with a focus on subsistence farming and livestock.

Ethnic Groups: Hausa, Zarma-Songhai, Tuareg, Fulani, Kanuri, Arab, Toubou.

A-3 The Correct Answer is: c) Only 2, 3, and 4

Explanation: The **Sahara,** located in **Northern Africa,** is the **world's largest hot desert** and the **third** most **extensive desert** after the **polar deserts of Antarctica** and the **northern Arctic.**

- It spans over 9,200,000 sq. km **(8% of the earth's land area**).
- The Sahara Desert **encompasses** a major portion **of North Africa**, occupying about **31%** of the entire **African continent.**
- The **Sahara Desert spans 11 countries** in North Africa: **Algeria, Chad, Egypt, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Sudan, Tunisia, and Western Sahara**
- The **desert is bounded** by the **Mediterranean Sea** and the **Atlas Mountains** on the northern side; the **Red Sea** on the eastern side; the **Atlantic Ocean** on the western side and the **semiarid Sahel region** on the southern side.
- The majority of the Sahara is made up of **barren, rocky plateaus,** as well as **salt flats, sand dunes, mountains,** and **dry valleys.**
- The large **Nile** and **Niger rivers,** along with the seasonal lakes and aquifers, provide the main source of water for the major **desert oases.**
- The **Nile River** traverses the desert's **eastern region**, providing crucial water for the region.
- The highest peak in the Sahara is **Emi Koussi** (3,415m), a volcano located in the **Tibesti Mountains, Chad.**
- The **Sahel region** serves as a transition zone between the **hot desert** in the **north** and the **humid savannas** of **Sub-Saharan Africa** in the south.

Significance: *The Sahara Desert is undergoing a rare transformation as heavy rainfall brings unexpected greenery to its arid landscape.*

A-4 The Correct Answer is: a) Only 1 and 2

Explanation: The **Blue Line** serves as a **UN-established demarcation line** between **Lebanon** and **Israel,** primarily for monitoring **ceasefire agreements.**

- It was drawn in **2000** following Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon.
- The line is not entirely along the Mediterranean coastline, as **it extends inland.**
- While there are **disputed** territories between **Lebanon and Syria,** these **are not part of the Blue Line.**
- **Israel and Lebanon** have **no official border** separating them, **except the Blue Line.**

Note: Blue Line is also a learning ecosystem created by the **UN System Staff College.**

Significance: *UN warns of escalating tensions on Lebanon-Israel 'Blue Line' frontier.*

A-5 The Correct Answer is: a) Only 1 and 2

Explanation: **Lebanon,**officially the **Republic of Lebanon,** is a country in the **Levant region** of **West Asia.** Situated at the crossroads of the **Mediterranean Basin** and the **Arabian Peninsula.**

- it is bordered by **Syria** to the north and east, **Israel** to the south, and the **Mediterranean** Sea to the west;
- Lebanon shares a **maritime boundary** with **Cyprus** in the **Mediterranean Sea.**
- The **"Blue Line"** is a **demarcation** line drawn **by** the **United Nations** between **Lebanon** and **Israel** after the **Israeli withdrawal in 2000.**
- Lebanon does not share a border with Jordan; **its borders are with Syria and Israel.**

A-6 The Correct Answer is: b) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only

Explanation: **Israel,** officially the **State of Israel,** is a country in the **Southern Levant** region of **West Asia.**

- It is bordered by **Lebanon** and **Syria** to the north, the **West Bank** and **Jordan** to the east, the **Gaza Strip** and **Egypt** to the southwest, and the **Mediterranean Sea** to the west. The country also has a small coastline on the **Red Sea** at its southernmost point, and part of the **Dead Sea** lies along its eastern border.
- Israel's proclaimed **capital** is in **Jerusalem,** while **Tel Aviv** is the country's **largest urban** area and **economic center.**
- **Iraq does not** directly **border Israel.**

A-7 The Correct Answer is: c) Bermuda Triangle

Explanation: The **Bermuda Triangle** is a loosely defined region in the **Atlantic Ocean**.

- Its **three points** are **Miami (USA), San Juan (Puerto Rico),** and **Bermuda (UK territory).**
- The region has gained notoriety for unexplained phenomena, including **ship and aircraft disappearances.**
- Unlike the Sargasso Sea or the Gulf of Mexico, the Bermuda Triangle is **not officially recognized** as a geographic or cartographic location.

Significance: *The Bermuda Triangle is often in the news due to the enduring fascination with its mysterious reputation.*

SOLUTIONS & EXPLANATIONS

A-8 The Correct Answer is: b) Only 3 and 4

Explanation: Statement 1 is false because the **Bermuda Triangle spans international waters.**

- Statement 2 is false as the Bermuda Triangle is **not officially recognized** as a geographic area by any authoritative body.
- Statement 3 is true; the Bermuda Triangle is **located** in the **Atlantic Ocean.**
- Statement 4 is true; Bermuda is a **British Overseas Territory** and one of the Triangle's vertices.

A-9 The Correct Answer is: a) Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran

Explanation: - The **Golden Crescent** is a term used to describe one of the **world's principal regions of illicit opium production,** covering an area of approximately 400,000 square miles.

- The region spans across **Afghanistan, Iran,** and **Pakistan,** which are responsible for producing an estimated **80-90% of the world's illicit opiates**.
- The term **'Golden Crescent'** is derived from the geographical shape of the region, which roughly resembles a **crescent moon.**

Significance: *Recent news has highlighted the increasing production of opium in Afghanistan, despite efforts to curb it. This surge in production has fueled concerns about the resurgence of the drug trade in the region and its potential impact on global drug markets.*

A-10 The Correct Answer is: c) Both 1 & 2

Explanation: - The **Golden Triangle** is a term used to describe one o**f Asia's principal regions of illicit opium production.**

- It is a mountainous region that spans across the countries of **Myanmar, Laos,** and **Thailand.** The region is named the **Golden Triangle** because of its **geographical shape,** which roughly **resembles a triangle.**
- It has been a major global producer of **illicit opium** for decades, and the profits from the drug trade have been a major source of funding for **terrorist organizations, insurgency groups,** and **organized crime** syndicates.
- Efforts to curb opium production in the region have been ongoing, but have been complicated by factors such as political instability, poverty, and corruption.

Significance: *Recent news has focused on the evolving drug landscape in the region, with a shift from opium production to synthetic drugs like methamphetamine. This shift has presented new challenges for law enforcement and public health officials in the region and beyond.*

A-11 The Correct Answer is: b) Laos

Explanation: - **Laos,** officially the **Lao People's Democratic Republic (LPDR)**, is the **only landlocked country in Southeast Asia.**

- It is **bordered** by **Myanmar** and **China** to the northwest, **Vietnam** to the east, **Cambodia** to the southeast, and **Thailand** to the west and southwest.
- Its **capital** and most populous city is **Vientiane.**
- The **Mekong River,** a **major waterway** in **Southeast Asia, flows** along much of its **western border** with **Thailand.**

Significance: *Prime Minister (PM) attended the 19th East Asia Summit (EAS) in Vientiane, Lao PDR*

A-12 The Correct Answer is: b) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only

Explanation: - **Thailand,** officially the **Kingdom of Thailand** and **historically** known as **Siam** (the official name until 1939), is a country in **Southeast Asia** on the **Indochinese Peninsula.**

- **Thailand** is **bordered** to the northwest by **Myanmar,** to the northeast and east by **Laos,** to the southeast by **Cambodia,** to the south by the **Gulf of Thailand** and **Malaysia,** and to the southwest by **the Andaman Sea. Thailand does not share a border with Vietnam.**
- It also shares **maritime borders** with **Vietnam** to the southeast and **Indonesia** and **India** to the southwest.
- **Bangkok** is the state **capital** and largest city.

Significance: *Thailand has become the first nation in Southeast Asia to legalize same-sex marriages.*

A-13 The Correct Answer is: b) Malaysia

Explanation: The **Mekong** or **Mekong River** is a **trans-boundary river** in **East Asia** and **Southeast Asia.**

- It is the **world's twelfth longest river** and the **third longest in Asia**. From the **Tibetan Plateau** the **river runs** through **China, Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia,** and **Vietnam.**
- The **extreme seasonal variations** in flow and the presence of rapids and waterfalls in the **Mekong make navigation difficult**. **Even so**, the **river** is a **major trade route between** western **China and Southeast Asia.**

A-14 The Correct Answer is: d) In northern Thailand, close to Burma and Laos

Explanation: The **Golden Triangle** is the area where the **borders** of **Thailand, Laos,** and **Myanmar** meet at the **confluence of the Ruak and Mekong rivers**.

- The name **"Golden Triangle"**—coined by the **CIA**—is commonly used more broadly to refer to an area of approximately 950,000 square kilometres (367,000 sq mi) that **overlaps the mountains of the three adjacent countries.**
- In the 1960s the Golden Triangle was the largest producer of opium in the world. Thanks to a successful international crop substitution program and strict law enforcement the cultivation of poppies has been almost entirely eradicated and has mainly moved to other parts of Asia.

A-15 The Correct Answer is: c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation: The Coral Triangle, often referred to as the **'Amazon of the seas'**, is a huge marine area spanning over 10 million square kilometres.

- It includes countries like **Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, the Philippines, Timor-Leste, and the Solomon Islands.**
- Significance: This region is home to **76 per cent of the world's coral species** and **supports more than 120 million people** who rely on its resources for **their livelihoods.**
- **Threats: Unsustainable fishing** practices, **pollution** from coastal development, and **climate change-induced** coral bleaching pose significant risks to the health and resilience of these ecosystems.

What are Corals?

- Corals are essentially animals, which are sessile, meaning they permanently attach themselves to the ocean floor.
- Corals share a symbiotic relationship with single-celled algae called zooxanthellae.
- The algae provide the coral with food and nutrients, which they make through photosynthesis, using the sun's light.
- They use their tiny tentacle-like hands to catch food from the water and sweep into their mouth.
- Each individual coral animal is known as a polyp and it lives in groups of hundreds to thousands of genetically identical polyps that form a 'colony'.

significance: *A report released at the 16th Conference of Parties (COP16) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) highlighted alarming facts about oil and gas activities in the Coral Triangle.*

A-16 The Correct Answer is: a) Only 1 and 2

Explanation: The **Coral Triangle** has the **highest coral diversity on Earth** and supports the **livelihoods** of over **100 million people through fishing and tourism.**

- However, the **world's largest coral reef system is the Great Barrier Reef in Australia**, which is **outside the Coral Triangle.**

A-17 The Correct Answer is: a) 1, 2 & 3 only

Explanation: The **Black Sea** is a **marginal Mediterranean** Sea lying **between Europe** and **Asia.** It is **bordered by Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Russia, Turkey, and Ukraine.**

- It is **supplied by major rivers,** principally the **Danube, Dnieper, and Don.**
- The **Black Sea** ultimately **drains into** the **Mediterranean Sea,** via the **Turkish Straits** and the **Aegean Sea.** The **Bosporus Strait connects** it to the small **Sea of Marmara** which in turn is **connected** to the **Aegean Sea** via the **Strait of the Dardanelles.**
- To the north, the **Black Sea** is connected to the **Sea of Azov** by the **Kerch Strait.**
- The Black Sea covers 436,400 km2 (not including the Sea of Azov), making it the **world's largest inland body of water.**

Significance: *Russia's increased attacks on the Black Sea ports in Ukraine are delaying vital aid reaching Palestinians and stopping crucial grain supplies from being delivered to the global south, the British Prime Minister said recently.*

A-18 The Correct Answer is: a) Mediterranean, Aegean Sea, Sea of Marmara, Bosphorus Strait, Black Sea

A-19 The Correct Answer is: b) Sea of Azov

Explanation: **Sea of Azov** is sea in **Eastern Europe connected** to the **Black Sea** by the narrow (about 4 km or 2.5 mi) **Strait of Kerch**

- Sometimes **regarded** as a northern **extension of the Black Sea.**
- The sea is bounded by **Russia** on the southeast and by **Ukraine** on the northwest.
- It is the **shallowest sea in the world.**

A-20 The Correct Answer is: a) Black Sea

Explanation: **Snake Island**, also known as **Zmiinyi** or **Serpent Island,** is a small piece of rock less than 700 metres from end to end, that has been described as being X-shaped.

- The island is marked on the map by the tiny village of Bile that is located on it, belongs to Ukraine.

Significance: Ukraine has caused significant losses to the Russian military in airstrikes on Zmiinyi Island, also known as Snake Island, in the Black Sea.

A-21 The Correct Answer is: c) Turkey

Explanation: **Turkey** officially the **Republic of Türkiye** is a **transcontinental country,** with most of its territory in **Asia (Anatolia)** and a smaller portion in **Europe (Thrace).**

- **Most of Turkey** is situated on the **Anatolian Peninsula,** also known as **Asia Minor,** which constitutes the **Asian part** of the country.
- The **Bosporus Strait** and **Dardanelles Strait** separate the **European** and **Asian parts** of **Turkey** and **connect** the **Black Sea** to the **Aegean Sea,** making Turkey strategically significant for maritime trade. The **Bosporus,** which **connects** the **Black** Sea with the **Sea of Marmara,** and the **Dardanelles,** which connect the **Aegean arm** of the **Mediterranean Sea** with the **Sea of Marmara.**

- It is strategically **located** at the **crossroads of Europe, Asia, and the Middle East.**
- Turkey shares **borders** with 8 countries: **Greece** and **Bulgaria** to the northwest. **Georgia** to the northeast. **Armenia, Azerbaijan** (Nakhchivan exclave), and **Iran** to the east. **Iraq** and **Syria** to the south.
- Turkey is surrounded by three seas: the **Aegean Sea** to the west, the **Mediterranean Sea** to the south, and the **Black Sea** to the north.
- Turkey has several **large lakes,** including **Lake Van,** the **largest lake,** located in the **eastern part** of the country.
- Turkey lies on the **Anatolian Fault Zone,** making it **prone** to frequent and severe **earthquakes,** particularly in its **northern region.**
- **Religion:** More than 99 percent of the population is Muslim, mostly Sunni.
- **Spoken Languages:** Turkish (official), Kurdish, and Arabic.

Significance: *Turkiye strikes Kurdish militant targets in Iraq and Syria.*

A-22 The Correct Answer is: b) Only three

Explanation: - **Caspian Sea** the **world's largest inland body** of water, covering a total surface area of about 386,400 sq. km.

- It is **located** between **Asia and Europe.**
- It lies to the east of the **Caucasus Mountains** and to the west of the vast **steppe of Central Asia.**
- **Bordering countries**: It is bordered by **Russia** and **Azerbaijan** on the west, **Kazakhstan** and **Turkmenistan** on the north and east, and **Iran** on the south.
- The sea was named for the **Kaspi,** ancient peoples who once lived on its western shores.
- **Formation:** Going by the definition of a sea, the Caspian Sea is a lake and not a sea, as it is an **enclosed water body without any direct outlet to the ocean.**
- However, 5.5 million years ago, it was part of the ancient Parathethys Sea (an ancient sea in the Tethys Ocean) and got landlocked as a result of tectonic uplift and sea-level fall.
- Hence, the seafloor of the Caspian Sea is composed of oceanic basalt and not continental granite.
- The **composition of the water** of the **Caspian Sea** also **varies** from almost **fresh** in the **northern parts** of the lake to **saltier southwards.**
- The mean **salinity** of the **Caspian Sea** is now about **one-third** that **of the oceans.**
- **Three major** rivers—the **Volga,** the **Ural,** and the **Terek**—empty into the **Caspian** from the **north.**
- **Baku,** the **capital of Azerbaijan,** is the largest city on the Caspian. Another important city along the Caspian is Iran's Nowshahr.
- The sea is also known for its **abundance of energy resource**s (**oil and natural gas reserves in offshore fields** and **onshore** on **the coast** of the **sea).**
- It is the source of most of the **world's caviar.**

Significance: *The Caspian Sea has been shrinking since the mid-1990s, but the rate at which it's disappearing has sped up since 2005.*

A-23 The Correct Answer is: d) All of the above

Explanation: - The **Caspian Sea** has **vast oil and gas reserves,** making it **economically important.**

- The **Volga River,** the **longest river** in **Europe,** is a **key freshwater inflow** into the **Caspian Sea**.
- The entire **Caspian Sea** lies in the **Northern Hemisphere,** between 36° and 47° North latitude.
- Its **legal status** as either a **lake or a sea** has been a subject of ongoing negotiations due to implications for territorial rights and resource sharing.

A-24 The Correct Answer is: d) All of the above

Explanation: - Azerbaijan, officially the **Republic of Azerbaijan,** is a **transcontinental country** at the boundary of **West Asia** and **Eastern Europe.**

- It shares a land border with **Russia** to the north, **Georgia** to the northwest, **Iran** to the south, **Turkey** to the west (via the Azerbaijani exclave of Nakhchivan to the northwest) and **Armenia** to the west and via the **Azerbaijani** exclave of Nakhchivan to the north and east.
- To the east, **Azerbaijan** is **bordered** by the **Caspian Sea** which is classified as the **world's largest lake** and **also** as a **closed sea.**
- **Baku** is the **capital** and **largest city.**
- The **Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic** is indeed an **exclave** of **Azerbaijan, bordered** by **Armenia, Turkey,** and **Iran.**
- **Azerbaijan** is a member of the **United Nations,** having joined in **1992** after gaining independence from the Soviet Union.
- **Note: Although Azerbaijan is not a landlocked country,** but Azerbaijan has **no access to the open sea (hence the ocean),** that is why many sources (like https://en.wikipedia.org/) is considered **Azerbaijan a landlocked country.** it has a coastline of 713 km (443 mi) on the **Caspian Sea, which is a lake or a closed sea depending on various definitions and interpretations.** Because of its large size and being bordered by five countries, it has **(still partially undefined)** maritime borders and naval forces by all five Caspian littoral states. Azerbaijan's maritime boundaries with Russia and Kazakhstan have been determined, but the boundaries with Iran and Turkmenistan are still disputed

Significance: *COP 29 is the United Nations Climate Change Conference took place in Baku, Azerbaijan from 11 to 22 November 2024*

A-25 The Correct Answer is: b) Only two

Explanation: - Guyana:It is a country located in the **northeastern part of South America.**

- **Borders:** It is bordered by the **Atlantic Ocean** to the north, by **Suriname** (along the Courantyne River) to the east, by **Brazil** to the south and southwest, and by **Venezuela** to the west.
- It shares its **maritime borders** with **Barbados** and **Trinidad** and **Tobago.**
- Although geographically situated in South America, the country is culturally and historically connected to the Caribbean and is a founding member of the **Caribbean Community (CARICOM).**
- **History:** Indigenous peoples inhabited Guyana prior to European settlement, and their name for the land, **guiana ("land of water")**, gave the country its name.
- Originally a **Dutch colony** in the 17th century, by 1815 Guyana had become a **British possession.**
- Guyana achieved independence from the UK in 1966.
- Present-day Guyana reflects its British and Dutch colonial past and ibts reactions to that past.
- **Guyana** is **involved** in **territorial disputes** with **both Suriname** and **Venezuela** that are legacies of colonial rule.
- It is the **only English-speaking of South America.**
- The **capital** and chief port of Guyana is **Georgetown.**
- It has been a member of the Commonwealth since 1970.

Significance: *The Indian Prime Minister arrived in Guyana recently, marking the first visit by an Indian leader in more than 50 years to the South American country with diaspora ties.*

A-26 The Correct Answer is: c) Guyana-Venezuela conflict

Explanation: - The **land boundary** between **Guyana** and **Venezuela** has been **disputed since** its **colonial inception** between **British** and **Spanish powers** in South America.

- In the 1840s, the British government had the border unilaterally surveyed, but the proposed line encroached on Venezuelan territorial claims.
- The boundary has since been arbitrated (1899) and bilaterally agreed upon following demarcation (1905), but remains in conflict.
- While the **British line**, accepted by Guyana, is the current de facto boundary, Venezuela maintains a historic claim to all territory currently administered by Guyana west of the Essequibo River.
- Venezuelan contents that the Arbitral Award of 1899 about the frontier between British Guiana and Venezuela is null and void.
- **Disputed Area:** The bone of contention lies in the densely forested Essequibo region of Guyana, which Venezuela claims as its territory.
- Venezuela's claim along the Essequibo River extends for 1,034 kilometers before reaching Brazilian territory.
- At stake is approximately 142,795 square kilometers that is currently administered by Guyana.
- Offshore, the disputed land territory is a maritime space that was recently discovered to be rich in hydrocarbon resources, upping the stakes of the land boundary dispute.
- **Current Status:**
  - Guyana submitted the dispute to the International Court of Justice in 2018.
  - Despite Venezuela's withdrawal from the case, proceedings are currently ongoing.

A-27 The Correct Answer is: b) Only two

Explanation: **CARICOM,** which stands for **Caribbean Community,** is the **oldest surviving integration movement** in the developing world.

- It is an **organization of Caribbean countries** and dependencies originally established as the **Caribbean Community and Commons Market in 1973** by the **Treaty of Chaguaramas.**
- **Main Purposes:** Promote **economic integration** and **cooperation** among its members;
- To ensure that the benefits of **integration** are **equitably** shared;
- To **coordinate foreign** policy;
- **Members:** It has 15 members; **Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.**
- Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, and the Turks and Caicos Islands have associate member status, and Aruba, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Venezuela **maintain observer status.**
- The **Chairmanship** of the Community is **rotated** every **six months** among the member countries' Heads.
- Secretariat: The **CARICOM Secretariat** in **Georgetown, Guyana,** is the principal administrative organ of the Community and is headed by a **Secretary General** who is the **Chief Executive Officer of the Community.**
- In **2007, CARICOM** officially inaugurated the **Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ),** which serves as the **final court of appeal for CARICOM** members and also handles regional trade disputes.

significance: *Recently, India and CARICOM held their second Joint Commission meeting, an important event that reviewed and charted the future of their multifaceted relationship.*

A-28 The Correct Answer is: b) The English Channel

Explanation: **English Channel** is a narrow **arm of the Atlantic Ocean.**

- It **separates** the southern coast of **England** (part of Great Britain) from the northern coast of **France.**
- The **channel** and the **North Sea** are connected at the **Strait of Dover** in the east. The Strait of Dover, its **narrowest section,** is approximately 34 km (21 miles) wide.
- The current name, **"English Channel,"** dates back to the 18th century. Before then, the English mostly referred to the waterway as a **"Narrow Sea."**
- The French refer to the Channel as **"la Manche"** because of its sleevelike shape.
- The main islands are the Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands (a collection of **islands including Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, and Sark**).
- It is one of the world's **busiest shipping areas,** linking southern England, the United Kingdom to northern France.
- It accounts for up to **20% of the global maritime trade** and **connects** the **Atlantic Ocean to the North Sea.**

Significance: *Several people, including a child, died trying to cross the English Channel from France to England, the French Interior Minister said recently.*

A-29 The Correct Answer is: c) Only four

Explanation: - Germany borders the Baltic Sea.

- Russia borders the Baltic Sea in its enclave of Kaliningrad.
- The United Kingdom does not border the Baltic Sea.
- Sweden borders the Baltic Sea.
- Poland borders the Baltic Sea.
- Therefore, out of the given countries, only Germany, Russia (Kaliningrad), Sweden, and Poland border the Baltic Sea, making the correct answer "c) Only four."
- **Baltic Sea Bordering Countries *Trick: " GPRS For DELL "*** G- **Germany,** P- **Poland,** R- **Russia,** S- **Sweden,** F- **Finland, D-Denmark,** E- **Estonia,** L- **Latvia,** L- **Lithuania.**

Significance: *The Baltic Sea has been making headlines in recent months due to a series of incidents involving damage to undersea cables. These incidents have raised concerns about potential sabotage and have heightened tensions in the region.*

A-30 The Correct Answer is: b) Two only

Explanation: - **Baltic Sea** is a **semi-enclosed inland sea** located in **Northern Europe.** The Baltic Sea is not the largest inland body of water in Europe. That title goes to **Caspian Sea, and Lake Ladoga, largest lake in Europe, located in northwestern Russia.**

- The Baltic Sea is indeed bordered by nine countries including **Sweden, Finland, Germany with Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Denmark, and Russia.**
- It is an arm of the North **Atlantic Ocean**, extending northward from the latitude of southern **Denmark** almost to the Arctic Circle and separating the **Scandinavian Peninsula** from the rest of **continental Europe.**
- **Gotland,** the **largest island** in the **Baltic Sea,** belongs to **Sweden,** not Denmark.
- **Baltic Sea** is **artificially connected** to **White Sea** by the **White Sea Canal** and **North Sea** by the **Kiel Canal.**
- It connects to the **Atlantic Ocean** through the **Danish Straits.**
- The **Baltic Sea** contains **three major gulfs:** the **Gulf of Bothnia** to the north, the **Gulf of Finland** to the east, and the **Gulf of Riga** slightly to the south of that.
- It is often cited as the **world's largest brackish inland** water body.

- Its water salinity levels are lower than that of the World Oceans due to the inflow of fresh water from the surrounding land and the sea's shallowness.
- More than 250 rivers and streams empty their waters into the Baltic Sea. **Neva** is the **largest river** that **drains** into the **Baltic Sea.**

A-31 The Correct Answer is: b) Only two

Explanation: The **Congo River,** or **Zaire River,** is a river in **west-central Africa.**

- With a length of 2,900 miles (4,700 km), **it is the continent's second longest river, after the Nile.**
- It is also the **world's second-largest** river **by discharge** volume **after the Amazon River.**
- It is also the **world's deepest river,** with a maximum depth of 720 feet (220m), too deep for light to penetrate.
- **Origin:** It **rises** in the highlands of northeastern **Zambia** between **Lakes Tanganyika** and **Nyasa (Malawi)** as the **Chambeshi River** at an elevation of 5,760 feet (1,760 metres) above sea level. Its course then takes the form of a giant counterclockwise arc, flowing to the northwest, west, and southwest before draining into the **Atlantic Ocean** at **Banana (Banane)** in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo.**
- The **Congo River zigzags across** the **equator twice** as it flows.
- It also empties water and sediment into one of the **largest carbon sinks in the world**, the **Congo Plume in the Atlantic.**
- The Congo River system runs through the **Republic of the Congo**, the **Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic, western Zambia, northern Angola, and parts of Cameroon and Tanzania.**
- Its drainage basin covers an area of 1,335,000 square miles (3,457,000 square km). **It's the world's second-largest river basin, after the Amazon River Basin.**
- The **basin** is **bordered** by the **Sahara Desert** to the north, the **Atlantic Ocean** to the south and west, and the **East African lakes region** to the east.
- Major Tributaries: **Lomami, Kasai, Lulonga, Ubangi, Aruwimi, Itimbiri, and Mongala rivers.**
- The mix of equatorial climate and massive water source provided by the river provides the perfect ingredients for the **second-largest tropical rainforest in the world,** the **Congo Basin rainforest.**
- The **Congo is easily navigable** for most of its length, and much of the trade of Central Africa passes along it.
-

Significance: *A recent study found that cacao farming in the Congo Basin, the world's largest carbon sink, is linked with up to seven times more deforestation than other agricultural activities.*

A-32 The Correct Answer is: b) It results in a highly diverse ecosystem with tropical and subtropical zones.

Explanation: The **Congo River crosses the Equator twice**, creating a variety of climatic and ecological zones.

- This unique feature supports **diverse flora and fauna**, including **tropical rainforests** and **wetlands.**

A-33 The Correct Answer is: c) All three

Explanation: **Sudan** is located in the **northeastern part of Africa**. It is **bordered** by **Egypt** to the north, the **Red Sea** to the northeast, **Eritrea** and **Ethiopia** to the east, **South Sudan** to the south, the **Central African Republic** to the southwest, **Chad** to the west and **Libya** to the northwest.

- Sudan is the **third-largest country in Africa**, after **Algeria** and the **Democratic Republic of the Congo.** It has a total area of 1,886,068 square kilometers. (Formerly the largest country in Africa, since Southern Sudan gained independence from Sudan in 2011, Sudan is now the third largest country in Africa.)
- Sudan has a coastline on the **Red Sea.** The Red Sea is inlet of the Indian Ocean between Africa and Asia. One of the most **saline bodies** of water in the world. Bordering Countries**: Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Sudan, Eritrea and Djibouti.**

significance: *In a move strongly condemned by the UK and US, Russia has vetoed a draft UK-backed UN Security Council resolution calling for a ceasefire in Sudan.*

- *It began in April last year - Sudan's military and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) paramilitary group have been involved in a fierce battle against each other in Sudan leaving at least 420 people dead and more than 3,700 wounded.*

What is the conflict between the army and RSF?

- *The conflict between the army and RSF stems from a disagreement over how the RSF should be integrated into the armed forces and what authority should oversee the process.*
- *The merger is a key condition of Sudan's unsigned transition agreement with political groups.*

A-34 The Correct Answer is: d) Oil

Explanation: - The **Abyei region,** on the border with **Sudan,** was hotly disputed at the time of **South Sudan's** independence, primarily because of the presence of significant oil reserves in the region. Both Sudan and South Sudan have laid claim to the region, with tensions and conflict resulting from the dispute.

A-35 The Correct Answer is: b) The city of Khartoum.

Explanation: - The **Blue Nile** and the **White Nile converge** at the **city** of **Khartoum** in **Sudan** to **form the Nile River.** The White **Nile originates** in **Lake Victoria** and runs through several East and Central African countries, while the **Blue Nile originates** in **Ethiopia** and runs through Ethiopia and Sudan before meeting the **White Nile** in **Khartoum.** The **Nile River** then flows through Sudan and Egypt, **emptying** into the **Mediterranean Sea.**

A-36 The Correct Answer is: b) Chad

Explanation: **Algeria,** officially the **People's Democratic Republic of Algeria**, is a country in the **Maghreb region** of **North Africa.**

- It is **bordered** to the northeast by **Tunisia;** to the east by **Libya;** to the southeast by **Niger;** to the southwest by **Mali, Mauritania,** and **Western Sahara;** to the west by **Morocco;** and to the north by the **Mediterranean Sea.**
- The **capital** and **largest city** is **Algiers,** located in the far north on the **Mediterranean coast.**

Significance: *President of India recently paid a visit to Algeria.*

A-37 The Correct Answer is: a) Only one

Explanation: The **Maghreb,** also known as the **Arab Maghreb** and **Northwest Africa,** is the western part of the Arab world.

- The region comprises western and **central North Africa**, including **Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco,** and **Tunisia.** The **Maghreb** also includes the **disputed territory of Western Sahara.**
- The Maghreb is usually defined as encompassing much of the **northern part of Africa,** including a large portion of the **Sahara Desert,** but excluding Egypt and the Sudan, which are considered to be located in the Mashriq — the eastern part of the Arab world.
- The Maghreb is divided into a **Mediterranean climate region** in the north, and the **arid Sahara in the south.**

Significance: *China engagement with the Maghreb region has significantly intensified. This burgeoning relationship presents both inherent risks and promising opportunities for the countries within the Maghreb.*

A-38 The Correct Answer is: b) 2 only

Explanation: -**Lake Michigan** is the **third largest** of the **five Great Lakes of North America** and the only **one lying wholly within the United States.**

- It is the fourth largest **freshwater lake** and the fifth largest lake in the world ranked by surface area.
- The lake is 517 km long (north to south); it has a maximum width of 190 km. Its drainage basin area is 118,095 square km.
- **Lake Michigan** is **connected directly** to **Lake Huron,** into which it drains, **through** the broad **Straits of Mackinac.**
- This **hydrologic connection** through the Straits keeps the **water levels** of the two lakes in **equilibrium,** causing them to behave in many ways as though they are one lake.
- Water flows into Lake Michigan from several rivers in the its drainage basin, including the **Fox-Wolf, the Grand, the St. Joseph, and the Kalamazoo rivers,** among others.
- The lake boasts a variety of natural habitats, including **tallgrass prairies, wide savannas,** and the **world's largest freshwater sand dunes.**
- It hosts a wealth of plant and animal species, many of which are rare or endangered (such as the **Hine's Emerald Dragonfly and the Dwarf Lake Iris**).

Significance: *Researchers recently surveyed the bottom of Lake Michigan after spotting strange circles on the lakebed in 2022, and new observations show the circles are craters.*

A-39 The Correct Answer is: c) Ontario - Erie - Huron - Michigan - Superior

Explanation: -**Great Lakes** are believed to have been born some 20,000 years ago when the Earth started to warm and water from melting glaciers filled the basins on its surface.

- The **Great Lakes** are, from **east to west is** - **Ontario - Erie - Huron - Michigan - Superior**
- They are a dominant part of the physical and cultural heritage of North America.
- The **Great Lakes basin encompasses** large parts of **two nations,** the **United States** and **Canada.**
- They drain into the **Gulf of St Lawrence** in the North Atlantic through the **St Lawrence River.**
- They are the **largest group of freshwater lakes in the world.**
- **Lake Superior** is the **largest continental lake in the world by area.**
- **Lakes Michigan and Huron** are sometimes **considered as a single water body.**
    - When taken together, they are the world's largest freshwater lake by surface area.
- By itself, **Lake Huron** is the **world's third largest freshwater lake, after Lake Superior and Lake Victoria.**
- They also serve as the habitat for more than 3,500 species of plants and animals.

Additional Information: Top 5 Lakes by Area in the United States

- Lake Superior (31,700 sq. miles)
- Lake Huron (23,000 sq. miles)
- Lake Michigan (22,300 sq. miles)
- Lake Erie (9,910 sq. miles)
- Lake Ontario (7,340 sq. miles)

Significance: *Scientists are building a sensor network to detect the trends in the water chemistry of Lake Huron, one of the five Great Lakes of North America.*

- *It is the first step towards developing a system that would be capable of measuring the carbon dioxide and pH levels of the Great Lakes over several years.*

Acidification of water bodies

- *Acidification of oceans or freshwater bodies takes place when excess carbon dioxide in the atmosphere gets rapidly absorbed into them.*
- *Acidification may lead to a decrease in native biodiversity, create physiological challenges for organisms, and permanently alter the structure of the ecosystem, scientists say. It would also severely impact the hundreds of wooden shipwrecks that are believed to be resting at the bottom of these lakes.*

A-40 The Correct Answer is: c) Lake Michigan

Explanation: **-Lake Michigan** is the **only one of the Great Lakes** that is **entirely within the United States**; the **others** form a water boundary **between** the **United States and Canada.**

- The lakes are divided among the jurisdictions of the Canadian province of Ontario and the U.S. states of Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York.
- The province of Ontario does not border Lake Michigan, and the state of Michigan does not border Lake Ontario.

A-41 The Correct Answer is: c) Lake Erie

Explanation: **-Lake Erie** is the **fourth largest** lake by surface area of the five Great Lakes in North America and the eleventh-largest globally. It is the **southernmost, shallowest,** and **smallest by volume** of the Great Lakes and therefore also has the shortest average water residence time.

A-42 The Correct Answer is: c) Sea of Japan, the East China Sea, and the South China Sea

Explanation: **Chennai-Vladivostok Eastern Maritime Corridor Operational:** Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways

- Also known as the **Eastern Maritime Corridor (EMC),** it is set to boost maritime ties between **India** and **Russia.**
- **Envisioned** during the **Eastern Economic Forum (2019) in Vladivostok, Russia.**
- It seeks to develop a sea route between the **Indian port of Chennai** and **Vladivostok through Northeast Asia.**
- **Covers a distance** of around **10, 300 km.**
- The **corridor** would **pass through** the **Sea of Japan, the East China Sea, the South China Sea,** and the **Malacca Strait** to reach the **Bay of Bengal** and then cut across through the **Andaman and Nicobar** archipelago to reach **Chennai.** ***[The seas mentioned above will be discussed in Section B of this volume.]***

Significance of the Corridor

- **Reduced Logistics cost:** Due to reduction in transportation time (by around 16 days) and distance (by around 40%). Present trade route between Mumbai and St. Petersberg (Russia) via Suez Canal takes around 40 days and covers a distance of around 16, 066 Km.
- **Boost India's maritime sector:** The sector handles around 95% (by volume) and 70% (by value) of country's trade.
- **Address China's Dominance:** Passes through the South-China Sea. Vladivostok is located at a short distance from Russia China border
- **Boost India's Act Far East Policy:** Offer enhanced access to Russian resources and provide stronger foothold to India in the Pacific trade network.

Key Facts About Vladivostok:

- **Vladivostok** is a **major city** in **Russia,** located in the **Far East of the country.**
- It is located on the **Golden Horn Bay, north of North Korea,** and a **short distance** from **Russia's border with China.**
- It is the largest port on Russia's Pacific coast, and home to the Pacific Fleet of the Russian Navy.
- It is the eastern railhead of the **legendary Trans Siberian Railway,** which connects the **Far East of Russia to the capital Moscow,** and f**urther west to the countries of Europe**.
- At Vladivostok's massive port, shipping and commercial fishing are the main commercial activities.

SOLUTIONS & EXPLANATIONS

B-1 The Correct Answer is: a) 6

Explanation: **TRICK:** *TRICK: LET Me introduce AFRICAN ANGLE SILC who studied in ASIA and her sister BAGMaTI was MISS EUROPE in the Mid Fifteenth Century.*

- LET (Libya Egypt, Tunisia) Me (Morocco) angle (Algeria) in AFRICA
- SILC (Syria, Israel, Lebanon, Cyprus) in ASIA
- BAGMaTI (Bosnia, Albania, Greece, Malta, Turkey, Italy) + MISS (Montenegro, Slovenia, Spain) + Mid (Monaco) + Fifteenth (France) + Century (Croatia) in EUROPE.

1. Montenegro is a European country sharing a boundary with the Mediterranean Sea.
2. Malta is a European country sharing a boundary with the Mediterranean Sea.
3. Albania is a European country sharing a boundary with the Mediterranean Sea.
4. Algeria is an African (non-European) country sharing a boundary with the Mediterranean Sea.
5. Niger is an African (non-European) country NOT sharing a boundary with the Mediterranean Sea.
6. Austria is a European country NOT sharing a boundary with the Mediterranean Sea.
7. Cameroon is an African (non-European) country NOT sharing a boundary with the Mediterranean Sea.

Thus, there are 4 countries sharing boundaries with the Mediterranean Sea and 2 non-European countries not sharing with the Mediterranean Sea.

B-2 The Correct Answer is: b) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only

Explanation: 1. The Ionian Sea is located within the Mediterranean Sea with Greece, Albania, and Italy as basin countries.
2. Gulf of Lions is located to the south-east of France within the Mediterranean Sea.
3. Solomon Island is found in the Pacific Ocean to the east of Papua New Guinea.
4. Sicily island is part of Italy, separated from mainland Italy by the Strait of Messina, is located in the Mediterranean Sea.
5. The Strait of Bonifacio separates the Corsica (France) and the Sardinia (Italy) islands in the Mediterranean Sea.

B-3 The Correct Answer is: c) Italy and Slovenia

Explanation: Italy has a highly curved and zig-zag boundary of its coastline in the Mediterranean Sea along with islands. Thus, the coastline of Italy should be the largest length in the Mediterranean Sea. So, the answer should be between (a) or (c). Also, Macedonia doesn't open towards the Mediterranean Sea. Slovenia has a very small coastline in the Mediterranean Sea, as evident from Map. Hence, the answer is (c).

B-4 The Correct Answer is: c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation: 1. The Red Sea opens into the Mediterranean Sea through the Suez Canal.
2. The Mediterranean Sea opens into the Sea of Marmara and the Black Sea through the Dardanelles Strait and the Bosphorus Strait respectively.

B-5 The Correct Answer is: d) Neither 1 nor 2

Explanation: 1. The Mediterranean climate has hot, humid, and dry summers and mild, rainy winters.
2. Tropical Cyclones are a very rare event in the Mediterranean Sea and form occasionally September-November period.

B-6 The Correct Answer is: d) All of the above

Explanation: 1. The Sea of Marmara is an inland sea located entirely within the borders of Turkey. It is NOT land-locked since it opens towards the Black Sea by the Bosphorus Strait and the Aegean Sea by the Dardanelles Strait.
2. The surface salinity of the Sea of Marmara is slightly greater than that of the Black Sea, but only about two-thirds that of most oceans.
3. The Prime Meridian cuts through the Mediterranean Sea and not through the Sea of Marmara.

B-7 The Correct Answer is: C) 1, 2, 3 and 6 only

Explanation: The shortest path to swim/ sail from the Tyrrhenian Sea to the Sea of Marmara would be: Tyrrhenian Sea ➔ Strait of Messina ➔ Ionian Sea ➔ Along the southern boundary of Greece to the Aegean Sea ➔ Dardanelles Strait ➔ Sea of Marmara

B-8 The Correct Answer is: a) 3, 4 and 5 only

Explanation: We know that the countries surrounding the Mediterranean in clockwise order are Spain, France, Monaco, Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro, Albania, Greece, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco. Malta and Cyprus are island countries in the sea.
(Trick: *LET Me introduce AFRICAN Angel SILC who studied in ASIA and her sister BAGMaTI was MISS EUROPE in the Mid Fifteenth Century)*
Thus, Hungary and Austria don't even border the Mediterranean Sea, and hence, they can not border the Adriatic Sea. So, our answer must contain 4 & 5. As a result, options (a) and (c) are possible candidates. Now, Albania borders the Adriatic Sea, thus the correct answer should be (a).

B-9 The Correct Answer is: b) 2 only

Explanation: 1. The Adriatic Sea doesn't border Greece. It also doesn't connect to the Aegean Sea.
2. The Adriatic Sea connects to the Ionian Sea by the Strait of Otranto (between Italy and Albania).

B-10 The Correct Answer is: d) Neither 1 nor 2

Explanation: The predominant winter winds – Bora and Sirocco – flow in the Adriatic region.
1. Boro brings cold and dry continental air
2. Sirocco brings humid and warm air often carrying Saharan sand causing rain dust.

The warm air is usually not dry. Also, the cold air is usually not humid. From this simple fact, we can eliminate the options and arrive at correct answer.

SOLUTIONS & EXPLANATIONS

B-11 The Correct Answer is: a) 1 only

Explanation: 1. The Aegean Sea is an elongated embayment in the north-eastern part of the Mediterranean Sea.
2. It is NOT an enclosed sea. It is an open sea situated between the mainlands of Greece in the west and north, Turkey in the east, and Crete island in the south.

B-12 The Correct Answer is: b) 2 only

Explanation: Countries bordering the Aegean Sea are Greece and Turkey.
Countries bordering the Ionian Sea are Italy in the west and Greece in the east.
The country bordering the Sea of Marmara is Turkey only.
Countries bordering the Adriatic Sea are Albania, Bosnia, Croatia, Italy, Montenegro, and Slovenia.
Thus, from the above information, we can conclude that:

1. There is NO common country amongst the bordering countries of the Adriatic Sea, the Aegean Sea, and the Ionian Sea.
2. Turkey is the only country common between the bordering countries of the Aegean Sea and the Sea of Marmara.

B-13 The Correct Answer is: c) 1, 3, 5, 7 and 8 only

Explanation: The shortest path to swim/ sail from the Atlantic Ocean to the Aegean Sea would be:
Atlantic Ocean ➔ Strait of Gibraltar to enter the Mediterranean Sea ➔ Balearic Sea (Balearic island in the south-east of Spain) ➔ Strait of Bonifacio (a narrow channel between Corsica, France & Sardinia, Italy) ➔ Tyrrhenian Sea ➔ Strait of Messina ➔ Ionian Sea ➔ Aegean Sea.

B-14 The Correct Answer is: b) 3

Explanation: The possible land route wherein one travels through a minimum number of countries to reach the Black Sea is shows below:
India ➔ Pakistan ➔ Iran ➔ Turkey ➔ Black Sea. Thus, the answer is 3.

B-15 The Correct Answer is: a) 3, 2

Explanation: Countries sharing borders with the Black Sea are given by:
GURR BuT ➔ GURR (Georgia, Ukraine, Romania, Russia) BuT (Bulgaria, Turkey).
Now, Russia, Georgia, and Turkey are Asian countries from the above list, which share a boundary with the Black Sea.
Ukraine and Romania are non-Asian countries from the above list, which share a boundary with the Black Sea.

B-16 The Correct Answer is: b) 2 only

Explanation: 1. It is NOT a completely landlocked sea. It is connected to the Sea of Azov in the north and the Aegean Sea in the south-west. The Black Sea is characterized by a continental type of climate.
2. It connects to the Sea of Marmara by Bosphorous Strait, and Sea of Azov by the Strait of Kerch.

B-17 The Correct Answer is: c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation: 1. The Black Sea is the world's largest meromictic sea where the deep waters do not inter-mix with the upper layers of water that receive oxygen from the atmosphere.
2. Yes, It is the world's largest inland water body.

B-18 The Correct Answer is: d) All of the above

Explanation: The Sea of Azov is an inland sea that is surrounded by land all around except an opening at the Strait of Kerch. An inland sea is a shallow(shallowest in the world), almost landlocked sea that is connected to the ocean only through narrow channels. They usually contain many islands, channels, and straits. The Sea of Azov is bordered by Ukraine and Russia.

B-19 The Correct Answer is: a) 1 only

Explanation: 1. The Sea of Azov is rich in marine life due to its shallowness, the proper mixing and warming of the water, and the input of great quantities of nutrient material by the rivers.
2. The currents in the sea flow in a counterclockwise rotation along the coasts.

B-20 The Correct Answer is: b) 1, 3, 4 and 6 only

Explanation: The bordering countries of the Celtic Sea are Ireland, England, and France. It is bounded by the Irish Sea and Bristol Channel in the north-east, the English Channel, and the Atlantic Ocean in the east and the south respectively, and the Bay of Biscay in the south-east. There are no land features to divide the Celtic Sea from the open Atlantic Ocean to the south and west.

B-21 The Correct Answer is: b) 2 only

Explanation: 1. **The Mediterranean Sea** shares the boundaries with **Spain, France,** Monaco, Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro, Albania, Greece, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Malta, and Cyprus. **The Celtic Sea** shares the boundaries with Ireland, England, and **France.** Thus, both the Mediterranean Sea and the Celtic Sea share their boundaries with France and NOT Spain.
2. The Celtic Sea is not directly connected to the Mediterranean Sea through any narrow channel of water and only through the Atlantic Ocean.

B-22 The Correct Answer is: a) 3, 4 and 6 only

Explanation: The bordering countries of the Caspian Sea are TARIK (Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Russia, Iran, Kazakhstan).

B-23 The Correct Answer is: b) 2 only

Explanation: 1. The Caspian Sea is NOT a freshwater lake. It is a saline (brackish) water body. However, it is often categorised as the largest lake in the world.
2. Countries sharing boundaries with the Caspian Sea are TARIK (Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Russia, Iran, Kazakhstan). Thus, NO non-Asian country shares a border with the Caspian Sea. Although, Turkey and Russia are both Asian and European countries, but they are NOT non-Asian countries.

B-24 The Correct Answer is: c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation: 1. Countries sharing boundaries with the Black Sea are **GURR BuT → GURR** (Georgia, Ukraine, Romania, **Russia) B**u**T** (Bulgaria, Turkey), whereas those sharing boundaries with the Caspian Sea are **TARIK** (Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, **Russia,** Iran, Kazakhstan). Thus, Russia is the only country sharing boundaries with both the Caspian Sea and the Black Sea.
2. The Caspian Sea is the largest landlocked sea in the world.

B-25 The Correct Answer is: b) 1

Explanation: Since the flight doesn't have access to Pakistan, it has two options – flight over sea or land. Since Ahemadabad is closer to Iran via sea flight and Iran directly leads to the Caspian Sea, thus, the answer is (b).

B-26 The Correct Answer is: (a) 3-6-2-1-5-4

Explanation: We know that the Arctic Circle is the northern-most item in the above list. Thus, 4 must come at last in the sequence. Therefore, (a) and (d) are possible candidates for the correct answer.
Also, Copenhagen is situated to the south of Helsinki. Thus, 6 must come before 1 in the sequence. Hence, (a) is the correct answer, by elimination.

B-27 The Correct Answer is: (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Explanation: 1. Correct.
2. Baltic countries are Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia, which share boundaries with the Baltic Sea on the eastern shores.

B-28 The Correct Answer is: (b) 2 only

Explanation: 1. The Nordic countries are **Denmark,** Norway, **Sweden, Finland**, and Iceland. Countries sharing borders with the Baltic Sea are given by **RuDe** (Russia, **Denmark) Germany SELL (Sweden,** Estonia, Latvia Lithuania) Poland & **Finland.** Thus, there are three common nations between them.

2. The Arctic Circle passes through 8 countries, namely – Norway, **Sweden, Finland, Russia,** the USA (Alaska), Canada, **Denmark** (Greenland), and Iceland. at least **three counties** bordering the Baltic Sea. Thus, Arctic Circle passes through four(which comes under the definition of at least 3) counties bordering the Baltic Sea.

3. Estonia shares the boundary with the Gulf of Finland and the Gulf of Riga. Russia shares its boundary with the Gulf of Finland and the Gulf of Gdansk. Finland shares its boundary with the Gulf of Bothnia and the Gulf of Finland. Thus, Russia is NOT the only country sharing its boundaries with at least two Gulfs in the Baltic Sea.

B-29 The Correct Answer is: (c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation: 1. The Aral Sea is a shallow landlocked, endorheic, saltwater lake in Central Asia. It has boundary between Kazakhstan to the north and Uzbekistan to the south.

2. Yes. It is considered an example of ecosystem collapse due to high salinity and pollution (because of toxic chemicals being released from weapons testing, industries, and fertilizer runoff, etc). The Sea has also been shrinking in its size for the last many decades due to the diversion of water from the Amu Darya and Syr Darya rivers for purposes of agricultural irrigation.

B-30 The Correct Answer is: (b) Aral Sea

Explanation: All the seas provided in the options are either inland/ semi-enclosed or completely land-locked.

	Sea		Surface Area (in km2)
(a)	Black Sea	:	4,36,402
(b)	Aral Sea	:	3300
(c)	Caspian Sea	:	3,71,000
(d)	Baltic Sea	:	3,77,000

B-31 The Correct Answer is: b) 1 & 2 only

Explanation: 1. The Red Sea is an inlet of the Indian Ocean located between Africa and Asia. The connection to the ocean is in the south through the Bab-el-Mandeb and the Gulf of Aden.

2. In the north are the Sinai Peninsula, the Gulf of Aqaba, and the Gulf of Suez (leading to the Suez Canal). The countries bordering the Red Sea are given by: **DESSEY** (**Djibouti, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Eritrea, and Yemen**).

3. The Red Sea is known so because of the occasional death of the extensive population of the algae Trichodesmium erythraeum which turns the sea into a reddish-brown colour.

The Red Sea may be geographically divided into three sections: the Red Sea proper, and in the north, the Gulf of Aqaba and the Gulf of Suez.

The six countries bordering the Red Sea proper are: **Eastern shore**:Saudi Arabia, Yemen & **Western shore**: Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea, Djibouti.

- The **Gulf of Suez** is entirely bordered by **Egypt.** The **Gulf of Aqaba** borders **Egypt, Israel, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.**
- In addition to the standard geographical definition of the six countries bordering the Red Sea cited above, areas such as Somalia are sometimes also described as Red Sea territories. This is primarily due to their proximity to and geological similarities with the nations facing the Red Sea and/or political ties with said areas.

B-32 The Correct Answer is: (d) 1 and 3 only

Explanation: 1. Yemen shares boundary with both.
2. Djibouti shares boundary with the Red Sea only and not Saudi Arabia.
3. Gulf of Aqaba shares boundary with both
4. Suez Canal lies entirely within the territory of Egypt and shares boundary with only the Red Sea.
5. Gulf of Aden shares boundary with the Red Sea only.

B-33 The Correct Answer is: (a) 1 only

Explanation: 1. It is a large gulf situated at the northern tip of the Red Sea between the Sinai Peninsula to the west and the Arabian Peninsula to the east.
2. Its coastline is divided among four countries – Egypt, Jordan, Israel, and Saudi Arabia.

B-34 The Correct Answer is: (b) 2 only

Explanation: 1. It opens towards only the Arabian Sea. The Gulf of Oman is located to the north of the Gulf of Aden between Oman and Iran.
2. True, It is bordered by the Horn of Africa to the south and Arabian Peninsula to the north.

B-35 The Correct Answer is: (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Explanation: 1. The Socotra island of Yemen is situated at the mouth of the Gulf of Aden, just to its south.
2. A resident of Jordan can reach the Gulf of Aden by the sea route through the Gulf of Aqaba, which in turn, is connected to the Red Sea and hence to the Gulf of Aden through the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait.

B-36 The Correct Answer is: (b) 2 only

Explanation: 1. The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), a regional inter-governmental political and economic union consists of all Arab states of the Persian Gulf except Iraq.
2. It is connected to the Gulf of Oman by the Strait of Hormuz.

B-37 The Correct Answer is: (c) 1, 4, 6 and 7 only

Explanation: The Persian Gulf is bordered by Iran, Iraq, **Kuwait, Saudi Arabia,** Bahrain, **Qatar,** UAE, and Oman. The members of the GCC are Bahrain**, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Saudi Arabia,** and the UAE. Yemen is neither a member of the GCC nor a bordering state of the Persian Gulf.

B-38 The Correct Answer is: (a) 1 only

Explanation: 1. Correct. The Gulf of Oman is bordered by Iran and Pakistan in the north, Oman in the south, and the UAE (United Arab Emirates) in the west.
2. It opens towards the Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf (via Strait of Hormuz) and NOT towards the Red Sea.

B-39 The Correct Answer is: d) East of the Mediterranean Sea and southwest of the Caspian Sea

Explanation: The location of the Dead Sea is correctly depicted by the following:
a) South of the Golan Heights
b) East and south of the West Bank
c) East of the Gaza Strip and west of Jordan
d) East of the Mediterranean Sea and southwest of the Caspian Sea

B-40 The Correct Answer is: (a) 2 only

Explanation: 1. It is one of the world's saltiest water-body with salinity as high as nearly 10 times of the ocean, which makes swimming similar to floating.
2. With a depth of ~300 m, the Dead Sea is the deepest hypersaline lake in the world.
3. The Dead Sea is landlocked and doesn't open towards the Mediterranean Sea.

B-41 The Correct Answer is: (c) 2 and 3 only

Explanation: 1. The Arabian Sea is bounded by the Gulf of Aden, and the Guardafui Channel (an oceanic strait off the tip of the Horn of Africa, lying between the Puntland region of Somalia and Socotra to the west of Arabian Sea) on the west, the Laccadive Sea on the southeast, Somali Sea on the southwest, and India on the east.
2. The Sea is not crossed by the Tropic of Capricorn, since the sea lies in the northern hemisphere and the Tropic of Cancer represents the 23 ½’N latitudes.
3. It is connected to the Mediterranean Sea through the Suez Canal (via the Gulf of Aden which leads to the Red Sea, which, in turn, leads to the Suez Canal). The Gulf of Aqaba doesn't open towards the Mediterranean Sea.

B-42 The Correct Answer is: (d) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only

Explanation: Iraq doesn't share a boundary with the Arabian Sea since it is one of the basin countries of the Persian Gulf, and the Persian Gulf doesn't have a direct opening towards the Arabian Sea. Thus, (a), (b), (c) cannot be the correct answers. Thus, by elimination, (d) is the correct answer.

B-43 The Correct Answer is: (a) 1 only

Explanation: 1. Correct, The surface Monsoon Current in the Arabian Sea changes the flow of direction from anti-clockwise in the winters to clockwise in the summers.
2. The Chabahar Port is situated in Iran. Moreover, Afghanistan is a landlocked country and doesn't even share a boundary with the Arabian Sea. UPSC gives half correct statements sometimes and lures the candidates towards a trap.

B-44 The Correct Answer is: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation: 1. The Indian states/ UTs bordering the **Bay of Bengal** are **West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry (UT), and Andaman & Nicobar Islands (UT)**. Thus, only four states and two Union Territories of India share their coastline with the Bay of Bengal.

2. Correct. The Monsoon ocean current transitions from the northward-flowing, clockwise circulation pattern in the summers to the southwestward flowing counterclockwise current in the winters.

3. The tropical cyclones occur more frequently in the Bay of Bengal than the Arabian Sea.

B-45 The Correct Answer is: (c) Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry

Explanation:	**State/ UT**	**Coastline Length (in km)**	**Area (in km2)**
1.	Puducherry	30.6 (Total)	492
2.	West Bengal	157.5	88,752
3.	Odisha	476.4	1,55,709
4.	Tamil Nadu	906.9 (very small part with Arabian Sea)	1,30,058
5.	Andhra Pradesh	973.7	1,62,972
6.	Andaman & Nicobar	1,962	8,249

B-46 The Correct Answer is: (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

	State/ UT	**Coastline Length (in km)**	**Area (in km2)**
1.	Puducherry	30.6 (Total)	**492**
2.	West Bengal	157.5	**88,752**
3.	Odisha	476.4	**1,55,709**
4.	Tamil Nadu	906.9 (very small part with Arabian Sea)	**1,30,058**
5.	Andhra Pradesh	973.7	**1,62,972**
6.	Andaman & Nicobar	1,962	**8,249**

B-47 The Correct Answer is: (b) 7

Explanation: While travelling from the state sharing the largest coastline with the Arabian Sea, i.e., Gujarat to the state sharing the smallest coastline with the Bay of Bengal, i.e., West Bengal, along the coastline, the following is one of the paths with a minimum number of states:

Gujarat → Maharashtra → Goa → Karnataka → Kerala → Tamil Nadu → Andhra Pradesh → Odisha → West Bengal

B-48 The Correct Answer is: (a) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only

B-49 The Correct Answer is: (c) 6-4-2-3-1-5

B-50 The Correct Answer is: (b) 1-3-2

Explanation: Important islands located in the South China Sea are as follows:

- **Pratas Island;** Pratas Island is an island made of coral atolls and reef found in the northern part of South China Sea.
- **Paracel Islands** (or Xisha Islands or Hoang Sa Archipelago), disputed between China, Taiwan & Vietnam;
- **The Spratly Islands**, disputed between China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Philippines, and Malaysia;
- **Macclesfield Bank**, an elongated atoll of underwater reefs, located to the east of Paracel Islands, southwest of Pratas Island and north of Spratly Island, and disputed between China and Taiwan;
- **Scarborough Shoal** (or Huangyan Island or Panatag Shoal), located between Macclesfield Bank & Luzon island and disputed between China, Taiwan, and the Philippines

B-51 The Correct Answer is: (a) 1, 3, 5, 6 and 7 only

Explanation: The South China Sea is a marginal sea of the West Pacific Ocean. The South China Sea is bordered by China, Taiwan, the **Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Brunei,** and **Vietnam.** The sea is bounded by the shores of South China in the north, the Indo-Chinese Peninsula in the west, islands of Taiwan and Philippines in the east, and Borneo, Sumatra, and Bangka Belitung Islands in the south.

It is connected to:

- The East China Sea in the north, via Taiwan Strait (or Formosa Strait between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan),
- Philippines Sea in the east by Luzon Strait (between Luzon island of the Philippines and Taiwan),
- The Sulu Sea in the southeast by Mindoro (between Busuanga and Mindoro islands of Philippines) and Balabac (between Balbac island of Philippines and Balambangan and Banggi islands north of Borneo which are part of Sabah state of Malaysia) Straits,
- Strait of Singapore in the southwest, and
- The Java Sea in the south by the Karimata Strait (between Indonesian islands of Belitung and Borneo) and Bangka Strait (between Bangka and Sumatra islands of Indonesia).

B-52 The Correct Answer is: (b) 5

Explanation: The ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) grouping includes **Brunei,** Cambodia, **Indonesia,** Laos, **Malaysia,** Myanmar, **Philippines,** Singapore, Thailand, and **Vietnam.** The South China Sea is bordered by China, Taiwan, **Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Brunei,** and **Vietnam.**

B-53 The Correct Answer is: a) 1 only

Explanation: 1. Weather in the sea is tropical and largely controlled by monsoons. In summer, monsoonal winds blow predominantly from the southwest; in winter, winds blow from the northeast.

2. The tremendous economic and geostrategic importance of the South China Sea is evident from the fact that one-third of the world's maritime shipping passes through it each year. The Sea is also considered a major source of natural resources for different territories.

B-54 The Correct Answer is: (d) Maritime disputes in the South China Sea

Explanation: The Nine-dash line is a vaguely defined demarcation line used by China and Taiwan for their claims of a major part of the South China Sea.

B-55 The Correct Answer is: (b) 1, 3 and 4 only

Explanation: East China is located to the:

1. Northwest of the Philippines Sea
2. West of the Ryukyu Islands
3. North of the South China Sea
4. Southwest of the Kyushu Islands of Japan

B-56 The Correct Answer is: (c) 2, 3 ,4 and 5 only

Explanation: The East China Sea is an arm of the Pacific Ocean and covers an area of roughly 1,249,000 square kilometers (482,000 sq mi). It is bounded on the east by Kyūshū and the Ryukyu Islands of Japan, on the south by the South China Sea, and on the west by the Asian continent. It connects with the Sea of Japan through the Korea Strait; it opens in the north to the Yellow Sea.

Countries with borders on the sea (clockwise from north) include: South Korea, Japan, Taiwan and the People's Republic of China.

B-57 The Correct Answer is: a) 1 only

Explanation: 1. Some of the important islands found in the East China Sea are:

- Senkaku Islands (Diaoyu Islands in China), disputed between China and Japan;
- Socotra Rock, a submerged reef, is disputed between China and South Korea.

2. The Tropic of Cancer doesn't cross the East China Sea, however, it cuts the Taiwan Strait.

B-58 The Correct Answer is: a) 1 only

Explanation: 1. The East China Sea is connected to the Philippine Sea in the southeast via gaps between Ryukyu Islands (like the Tokara & Miyako Straits).

- Miyako Strait (or Kerama Gap) is a water channel that lies between Miyako Island and Okinawa Island.

2. It is connected to the South China Sea through the Taiwan Strait.

B-59 The Correct Answer is: d) Southeast of the Gobi Desert and northwest of the Ryukyu Islands

Explanation: The location of the Yellow Sea is given by the following:

a) West of the Korean Peninsula and east of mainland China
b) North of the East China Sea and east of mainland China
c) West of the Sea of Japan and east of the Kunlun Shan
d) Southeast of the Gobi Desert and northwest of the Ryukyu Islands

B-60 The Correct Answer is: b) 1, 3 and 5 only

Explanation: The bordering countries of the Yellow Sea are China, North Korea, and South Korea.

B-61 The Correct Answer is: a) 1 only

Explanation: 1. The sea is connected to the Sea of Japan in the east through the Cheju Strait.
2. There is NO direct connection between the Yellow Sea and the Philippine Sea. The East China Sea comes in the midway of both the seas.

B-62 The Correct Answer is: c) 1, 3 and 4 only

Explanation: 1. South and southwest of the Sea of Okhotsk
2. East of the Yellow Sea
3. Northeast of the East China Sea
4. East of the Korean Peninsula
5. Southwest of the Bering Sea

B-63 The Correct Answer is: b) 2 only

Explanation: 1. The Sea of Japan is connected to the Sea of Okhotsk in the north and the northeast via the Tartary Strait and the La Perouse Strait respectively.
2. The Sea of Japan is connected to the Pacific Ocean in the east via the Tsugaru Strait (between Hokkaido and Honshu islands of Japan), and the Kanmon Strait (between Honshu and Kyushu islands of Japan).

B-64 The Correct Answer is: c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation: 1. Yes, It is situated to the south of the Arctic Circle and north of the Tropic of Cancer.
2. It has almost NO tides (like the Mediterranean Sea) due to its nearly complete enclosure from the Pacific Ocean (i.e., Sea of Japan being almost a landlocked Sea).

B-65 The Correct Answer is: (a) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

Explanation: The Caribbean Sea is bordered by the:
Greater Antilles: Cuba, Cayman Islands, Jamaica, Haiti, Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico (USA).
Lesser Antilles:

- Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, and Montserrat (UK),
- Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, Saba, Sint Maarten, and Sint Eustatius (Netherlands),
- Guadeloupe, Martinique, Saint Barthelemy, and Saint Martin (France),
- US Virgin Islands (USA), and
- The independent island nations – Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Kittis & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and Grenadines, and Trinidad & Tobago.

Bahamas, Colombia, Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and Venezuela.

B-66 The Correct Answer is: (b) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only

Explanation: The overseas territories of various countries in the Caribbean Sea are as follows:

- Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, and Montserrat **(UK),**
- Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, Saba, Sint Maarten, and Sint Eustatius **(Netherlands),**
- Guadeloupe, Martinique, Saint Barthelemy, and Saint Martin **(France)**
- US Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico **(USA),**

B-67 The Correct Answer is: c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation: Countries from three continents share their boundaries with the Caribbean Sea.

- Countries from North America (USA, Mexico, Haiti, Guatemala, etc.),
- South America (Colombia, Venezuela, etc), and
- Europe (UK, France, Netherlands, etc) share their boundaries with the Caribbean Sea.

2. Correct, It is connected to the Gulf of Mexico in the northwest through the Yucatan Channel.

B-68 The Correct Answer is: (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Explanation: 1. The world's second-largest barrier reef, the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef, is located in the Caribbean Sea. It is nearly 1000 km long and runs along the coasts of Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, and Honduras.

2. The Caribbean is home to approximately 9% of the world's coral reefs. It is quite difficult for 1/3rd of the world's coral reefs to be found in or around a single and small sea. Thus, this fact could be safely assumed to be wrong.

B-69 The Correct Answer is: d) South of the Great Lakes of North America and the Hudson Bay

Explanation: The location of the Gulf of Mexico is given by the following:
a) The Tropic of Cancer cuts through the Gulf of Mexico
b) Northwest of the Caribbean Sea
c) East of the Gulf of California and the Pacific Ocean
d) South of the Great Lakes of North America and the Hudson Bay

B-70 The Correct Answer is: (d) 1 and 4 only

Explanation: The Gulf of Mexico is bordered by the USA, Mexico, and Cuba. The Bahamas acts as a gateway to the Gulf of Mexico. Venezuela is a South American country and All the countries bordering the Gulf of Mexico are from North America.

B-71 The Correct Answer is: (a) 1, 3 and 5 only

Explanation: Since many countries border the Caribbean Sea, thus, we would approach this question by countries bordering the Gulf of Mexico which are the USA, Mexico, and Cuba. Now, countries bordering both of them should be from countries bordering the Gulf of Mexico.

B-72 The Correct Answer is: (d) West of the Labrador Sea

Explanation: Hudson Bay, inland sea indenting east-central Canada. With an area of 316,000 square miles (819,000 square km), it is bounded by Nunavut territory (north and west), Manitoba and Ontario (south), and Quebec (east). It is connected with the Atlantic Ocean via the Hudson Strait (northeast) and with the Arctic Ocean via the Foxe Channel (north).

The following most correctly depicts the location of the Hudson Bay.
a) Soutwest of the Baffin Bay
b) Southeast of the Bering Sea
c) North of the Great Lakes of America
d) West of the Labrador Sea

B-73 The Correct Answer is: (b) 2 and 3 only

Explanation: 1. The Hudson Bay lies to the south of the Arctic Circle and is NOT cut through by it.

2. The Hudson Bay has a lower average salinity level than that of ocean water because of the low rate of evaporation, and the large volume of terrestrial runoff entering the bay. Due to lower salinity, the freezing point of the water is higher than the rest of the world's oceans, which reduces the ice-free time of the bay.

3. The Hudson Bay is located entirely within the territory of Canada and, hence, bordered by Canada only.

B-74 The Correct Answer is: (a) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Explanation: The location of the Tasman Sea is given by the following:

1. South of Coral Sea
2. West of New Zealand
3. North of the Shrieking Sixties
4. East of the southern part of Great Dividing Range
5. Southeast of the Great Barrier Reef

B-75 The Correct Answer is: (a) 1 only

Explanation: 1. The sea is connected to two major Oceans – the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean (which is the largest ocean in the world).

2. Neither the Tropic of Capricorn nor the Shrieking Sixties (the fast blowing westerly winds blowing around the 60°S latitude in the southern hemisphere) cut across the Tasman Sea.

B-76 The Correct Answer is: (b) 2 and 3 only

Explanation: 1. The Coral Sea is connected to the following:

- The Solomon Sea in the north;
- The South Pacific Ocean in the northeast;
- The Tasman Sea in the south;
- The Gulf of Carpentaria and the Arafura Sea in the northwest via the Torres Strait

2. The countries bordering the Coral Sea are Australia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, New Caledonia, and Vanuatu.

3. The sea contains many reefs and islands, and the world's largest reef system, the Great Barrier Reef (GBR), which extends about 2000 km along the northeastern coast of Australia. The Chesterfield Islands and the Lihou Reef are the largest atolls of the Coral Sea.

B-77 The Correct Answer is: (c) 2 and 4 only

Explanation: Following are the major components of the Bering Sea:

- o Bristol Bay is the portion of the Bering Sea that separates the Alaska Peninsula from mainland Alaska.
- o Norton Sound is an inlet of the Bering Sea on the western coast of the US state of Alaska.
- o Gulf of Andyr is the large bay on the Bering Sea in far northeast Siberia.
- o Bering Strait of the Pacific, which separates Russia and the United States slightly south of the Arctic Circle.

- The Bering Sea is not crossed by the Arctic Circle. The International Date Line crosses through it.
- The Chukchi Sea is situated to the north of the Bering Sea.
- Siberian Sea is situated to the north of Russia and northwest of the Bering Sea.
- The Gulf of Alaska is situated to the east of the Bering Sea, forming an east-west arc to the south of Alaska.

B-78 The Correct Answer is: (c) Both 1 and 2

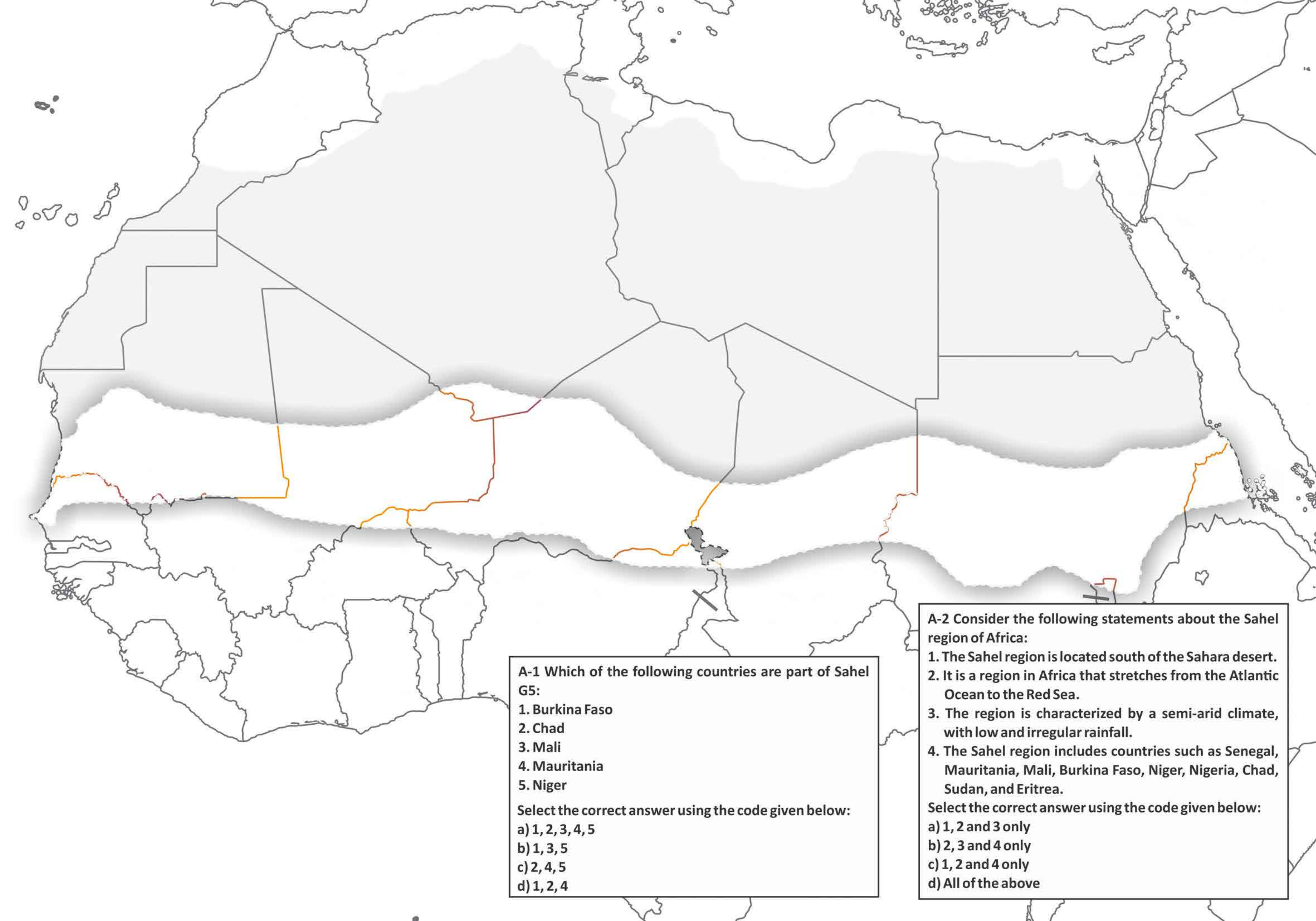
Explanation: 1. Yes, The Bering Sea is located in the northern most part of the Pacific Ocean and is bordered by the Aleutian Islands in the south.
2. It is bordered by only two countries, namely – Russia (Asian part of Russia) and the USA (North America).

B-79 The Correct Answer is: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation: 1. The Arctic Circle doesn't cut through the Kara Sea.
2. The Russian rivers Ob and Yenisei drain into the Kara Sea.
3. A significant amount of deposits of petroleum and natural gas are discovered in the Kara basin. It is one of the reasons that the importance of the Ob-Yensei region has increased.

B-80 The Correct Answer is: (d) North of Siberia

Explanation: The following correctly depicts the location of the Kara Sea.
(a) West of the Laptev Sea
(b) East of the Barents Sea
(c) North of the Arctic Circle
(d) North of Siberia



A-1 Which of the following countries are part of Sahel G5:

1. Burkina Faso
2. Chad
3. Mali
4. Mauritania
5. Niger

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

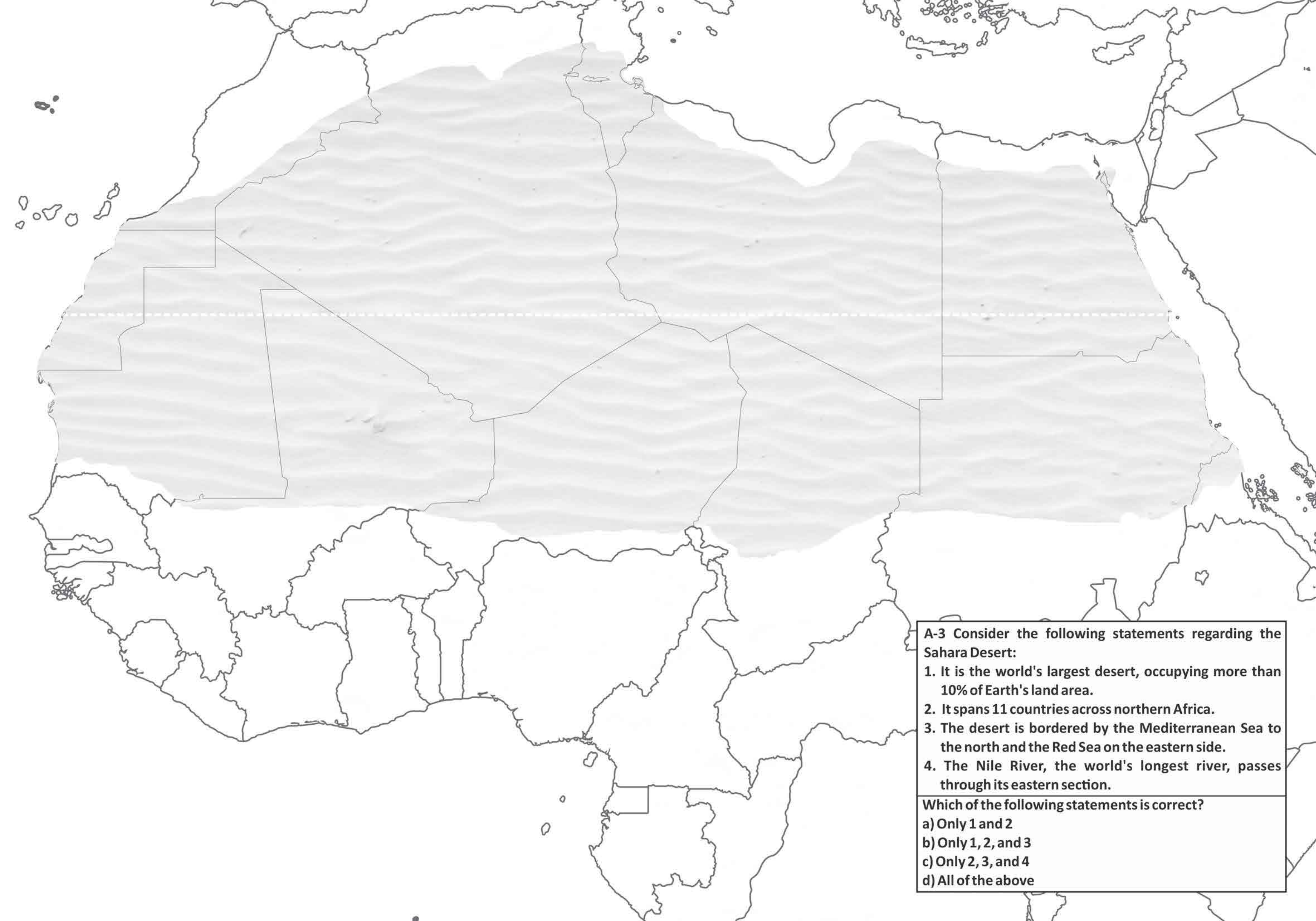
a) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
b) 1, 3, 5
c) 2, 4, 5
d) 1, 2, 4

A-2 Consider the following statements about the Sahel region of Africa:

1. The Sahel region is located south of the Sahara desert.
2. It is a region in Africa that stretches from the Atlantic Ocean to the Red Sea.
3. The region is characterized by a semi-arid climate, with low and irregular rainfall.
4. The Sahel region includes countries such as Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria, Chad, Sudan, and Eritrea.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a) 1, 2 and 3 only
b) 2, 3 and 4 only
c) 1, 2 and 4 only
d) All of the above



A-3 Consider the following statements regarding the Sahara Desert:

1. **It is the world's largest desert, occupying more than 10% of Earth's land area.**
2. **It spans 11 countries across northern Africa.**
3. **The desert is bordered by the Mediterranean Sea to the north and the Red Sea on the eastern side.**
4. **The Nile River, the world's longest river, passes through its eastern section.**

Which of the following statements is correct?

a) Only 1 and 2
b) Only 1, 2, and 3
c) Only 2, 3, and 4
d) All of the above

A-4 The Blue Line is a demarcation line established by the United Nations for monitoring a ceasefire. Which of the following statements about the Blue Line is correct?
1. It serves as a border between Lebanon and Israel.
2. It was drawn following Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon in 2000.
4. The Blue Line runs entirely along the Mediterranean coastline.
3. It includes territory disputed between Lebanon and Syria.

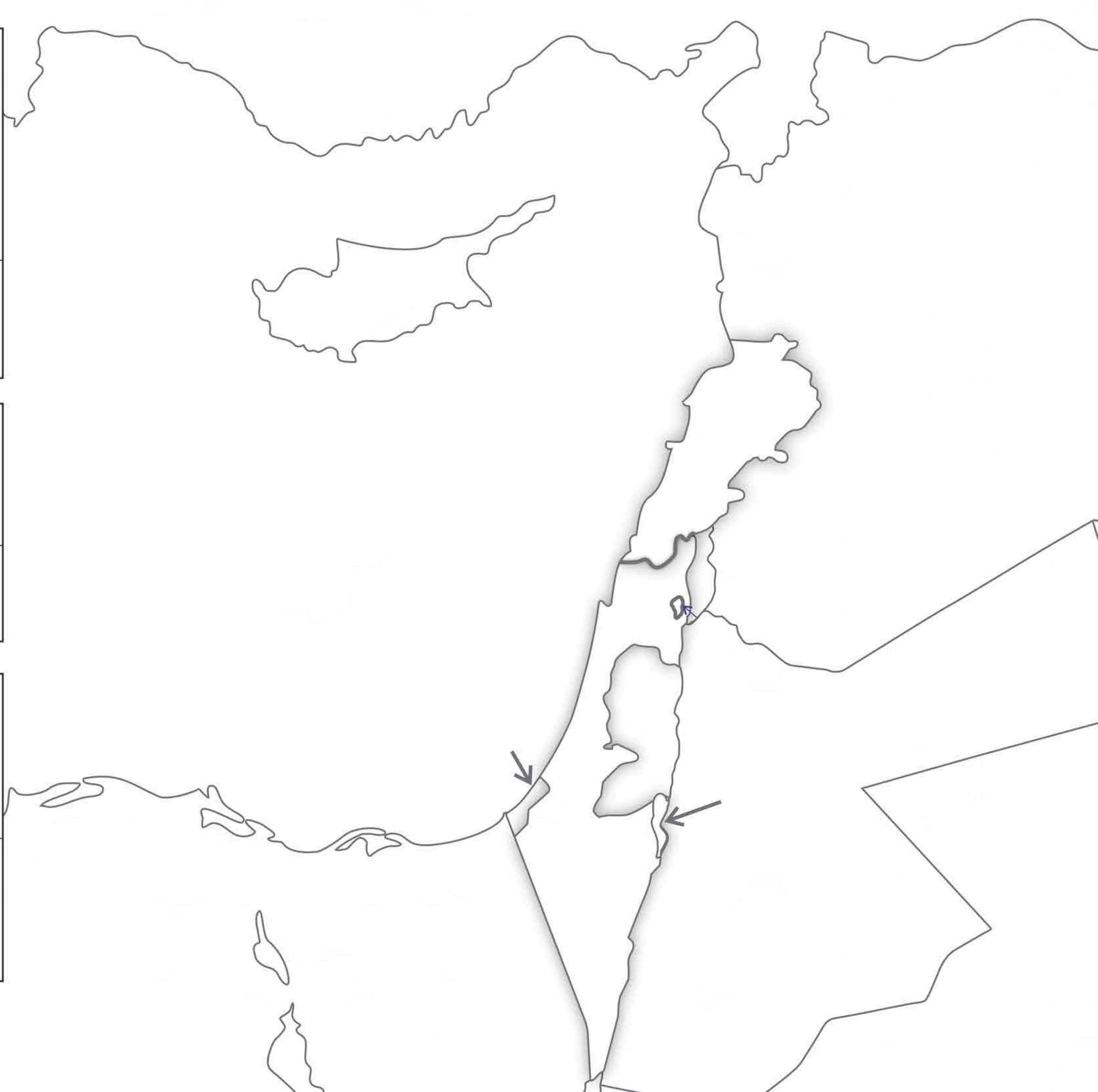
Options:
a) Only 1 and 2
b) Only 3
c) Only 1, 2, and 4
d) All of the above

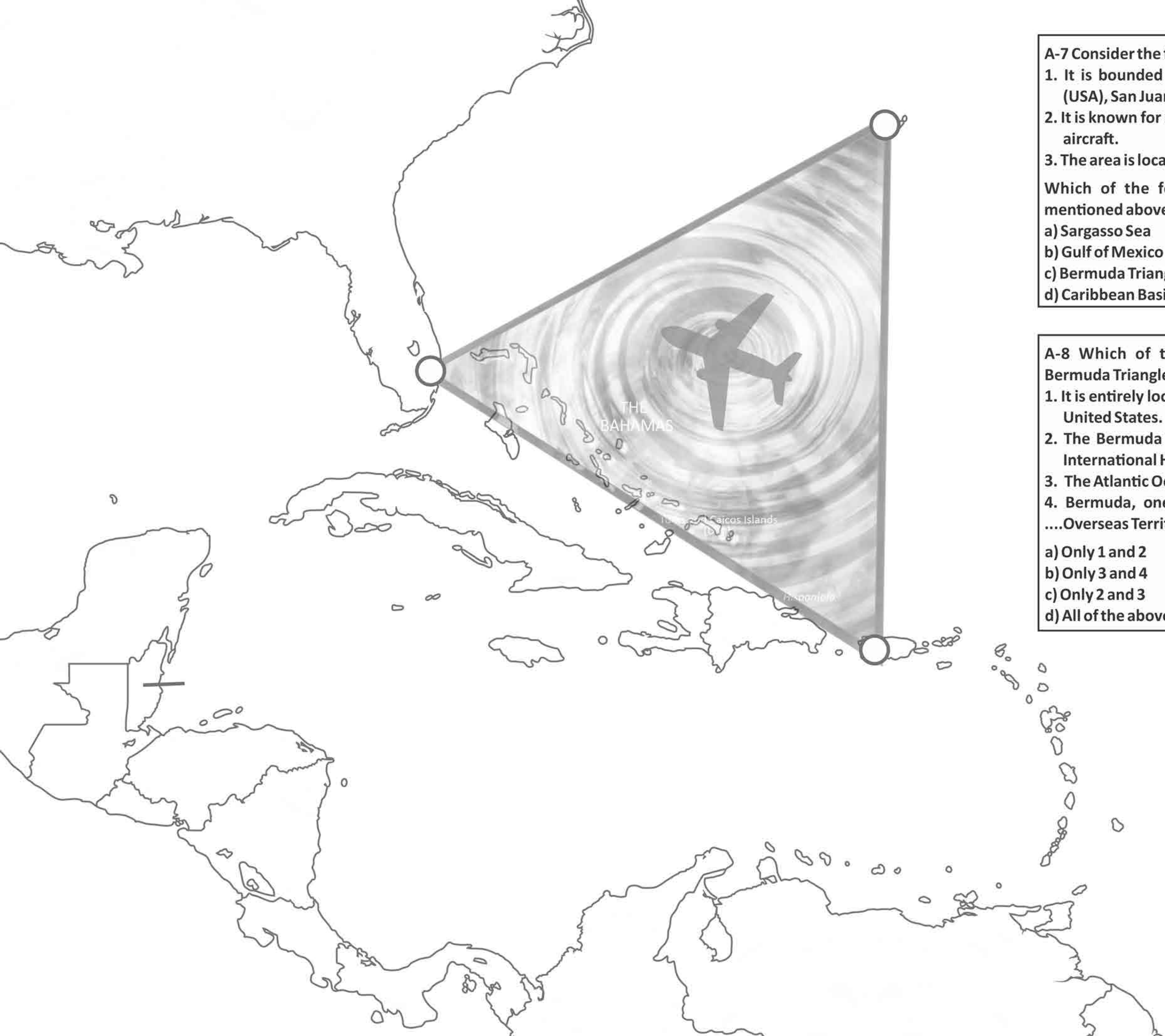
A-5 Which of the following is TRUE about Lebanon's borders?
1. Lebanon shares a maritime border with Cyprus.
2. The border with Israel is often referred to as the "Blue Line."
3. Lebanon shares its longest land border with Jordan.

a) Only 1
b) Only 1 and 2
c) Only 2 and 3
d) All of the above

A-6 Israel shares its borders with which of the following countries?
1. Lebanon
2. Syria
3. Egypt
4. Jordan
5. Iraq

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:
a) 1, 2, 4, and 5 only
b) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only
c) 2, 3, and 5 only
d) 1, 3, and 4 only





A-7 Consider the following statements:

1. **It is bounded by three geographic locations: Miami (USA), San Juan (Puerto Rico), and Bermuda (UK).**
2. **It is known for mysterious disappearances of ships and aircraft.**
3. **The area is located in the Atlantic Ocean.**

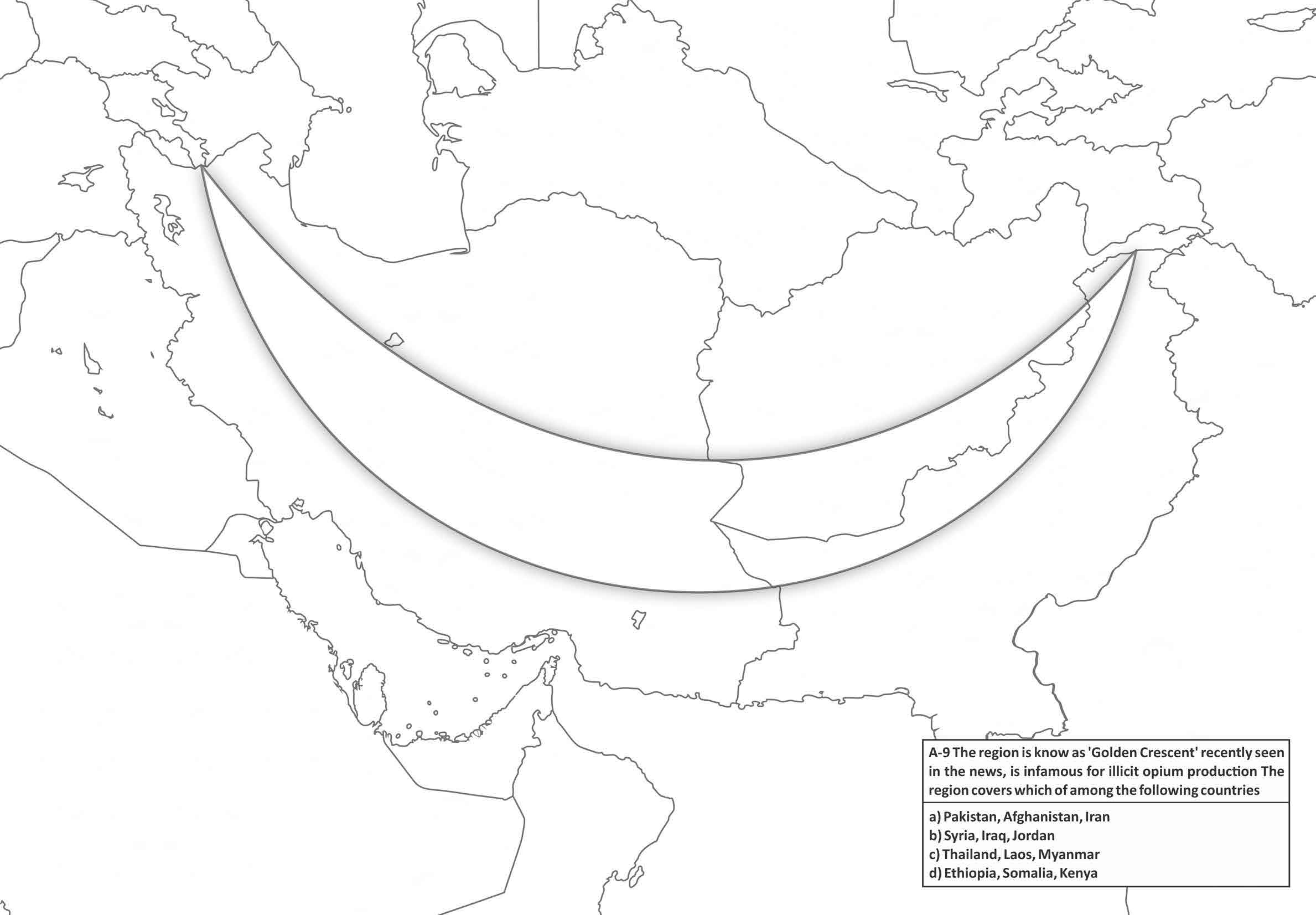
Which of the following best describes the region mentioned above?

a) Sargasso Sea
b) Gulf of Mexico
c) Bermuda Triangle
d) Caribbean Basin

A-8 Which of the following statements about the Bermuda Triangle is TRUE?

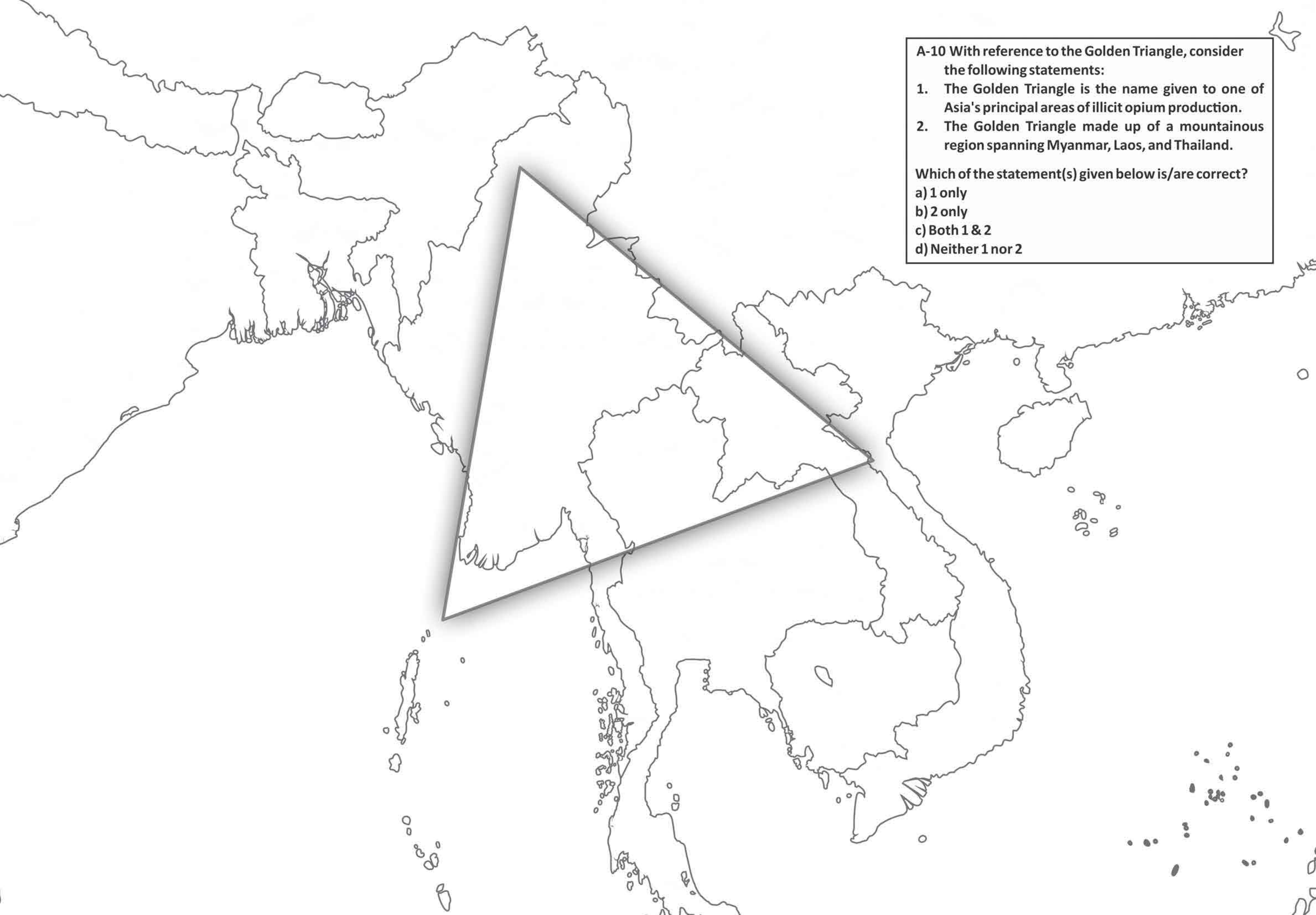
1. **It is entirely located within the territorial waters of the United States.**
2. **The Bermuda Triangle is officially recognized by the International Hydrographic Organization.**
3. **The Atlantic Ocean forms the base of this region.**
4. **Bermuda, one of the Triangle's points, is a British ....Overseas Territory.**

a) Only 1 and 2
b) Only 3 and 4
c) Only 2 and 3
d) All of the above



A-9 The region is know as 'Golden Crescent' recently seen in the news, is infamous for illicit opium production The region covers which of among the following countries

a) Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran
b) Syria, Iraq, Jordan
c) Thailand, Laos, Myanmar
d) Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya

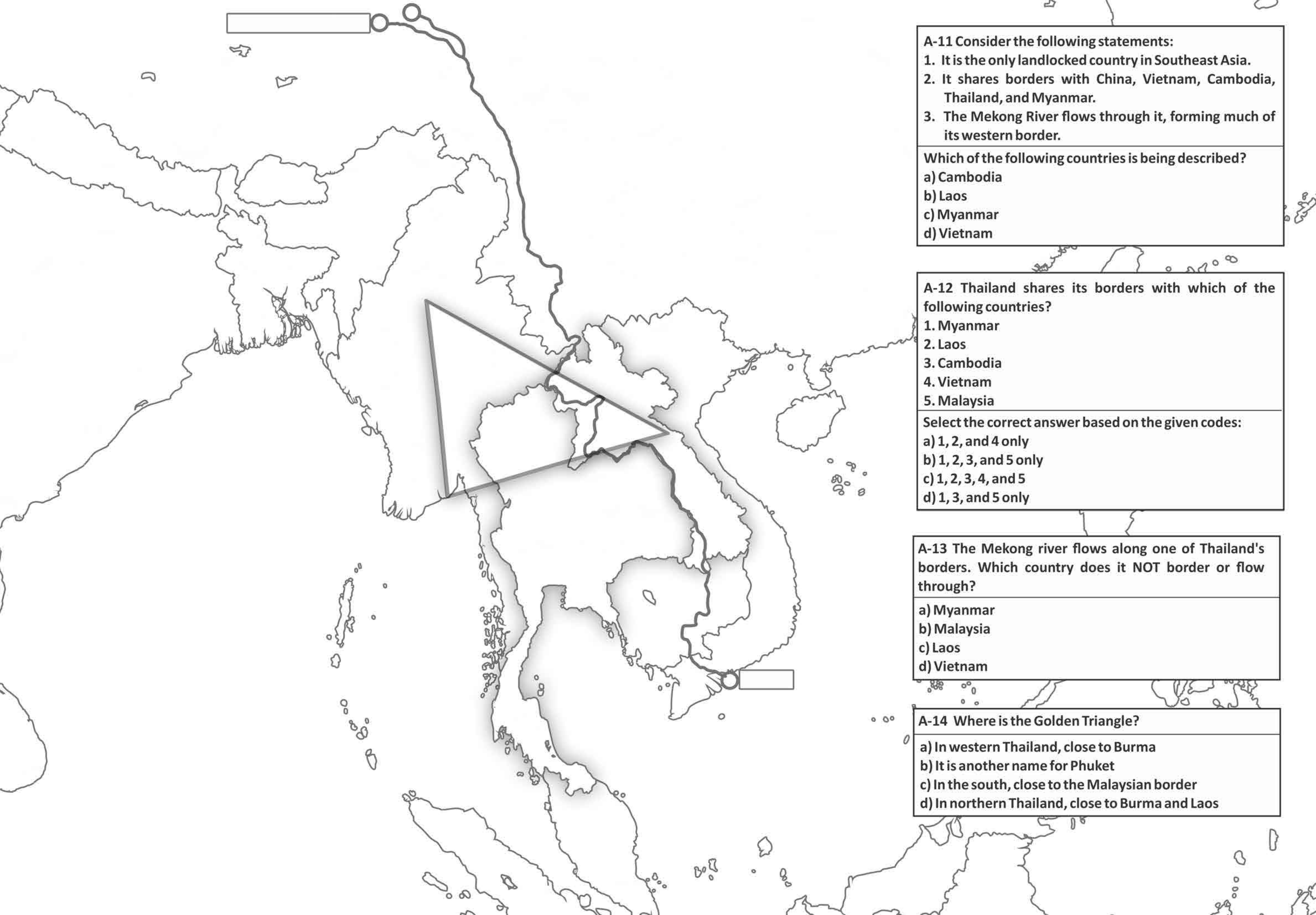


A-10 With reference to the Golden Triangle, consider the following statements:

1. The Golden Triangle is the name given to one of Asia's principal areas of illicit opium production.
2. The Golden Triangle made up of a mountainous region spanning Myanmar, Laos, and Thailand.

Which of the statement(s) given below is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 & 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2



A-11 Consider the following statements:

1. **It is the only landlocked country in Southeast Asia.**
2. **It shares borders with China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, and Myanmar.**
3. **The Mekong River flows through it, forming much of its western border.**

Which of the following countries is being described?

a) Cambodia
b) Laos
c) Myanmar
d) Vietnam

A-12 Thailand shares its borders with which of the following countries?

1. Myanmar
2. Laos
3. Cambodia
4. Vietnam
5. Malaysia

Select the correct answer based on the given codes:

a) 1, 2, and 4 only
b) 1, 2, 3, and 5 only
c) 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5
d) 1, 3, and 5 only

A-13 The Mekong river flows along one of Thailand's borders. Which country does it NOT border or flow through?

a) Myanmar
b) Malaysia
c) Laos
d) Vietnam

A-14 Where is the Golden Triangle?

a) In western Thailand, close to Burma
b) It is another name for Phuket
c) In the south, close to the Malaysian border
d) In northern Thailand, close to Burma and Laos

A-15 Consider the following statements regarding Coral Triangle:

1. It includes countries like Indonesia, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea.
2. It is known as the 'Amazon of the seas'.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

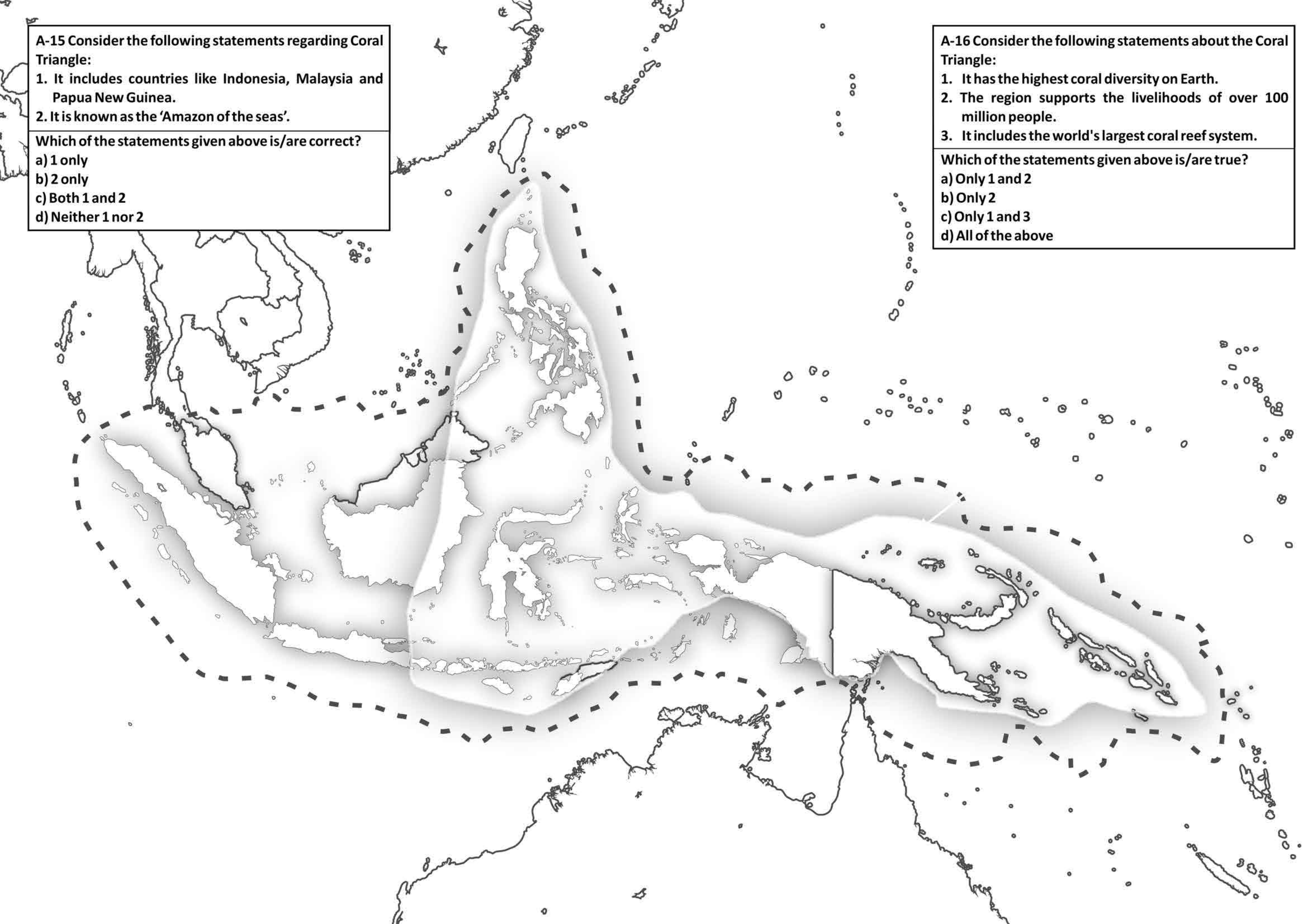
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

A-16 Consider the following statements about the Coral Triangle:

1. It has the highest coral diversity on Earth.
2. The region supports the livelihoods of over 100 million people.
3. It includes the world's largest coral reef system.

Which of the statements given above is/are true?

a) Only 1 and 2
b) Only 2
c) Only 1 and 3
d) All of the above



A-17 Black Sea is bordered by which of the following countries?

1. Bulgaria
2. Georgia
3. Ukraine
4. Italy

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

a) 1, 2 & 3 only
b) 2, 3 & 4 only
c) 1, 2 & 4 only
d) All of the above

A-18 If you were travelling by boat, which would be the route from the Mediterranean Sea to the Black Sea?

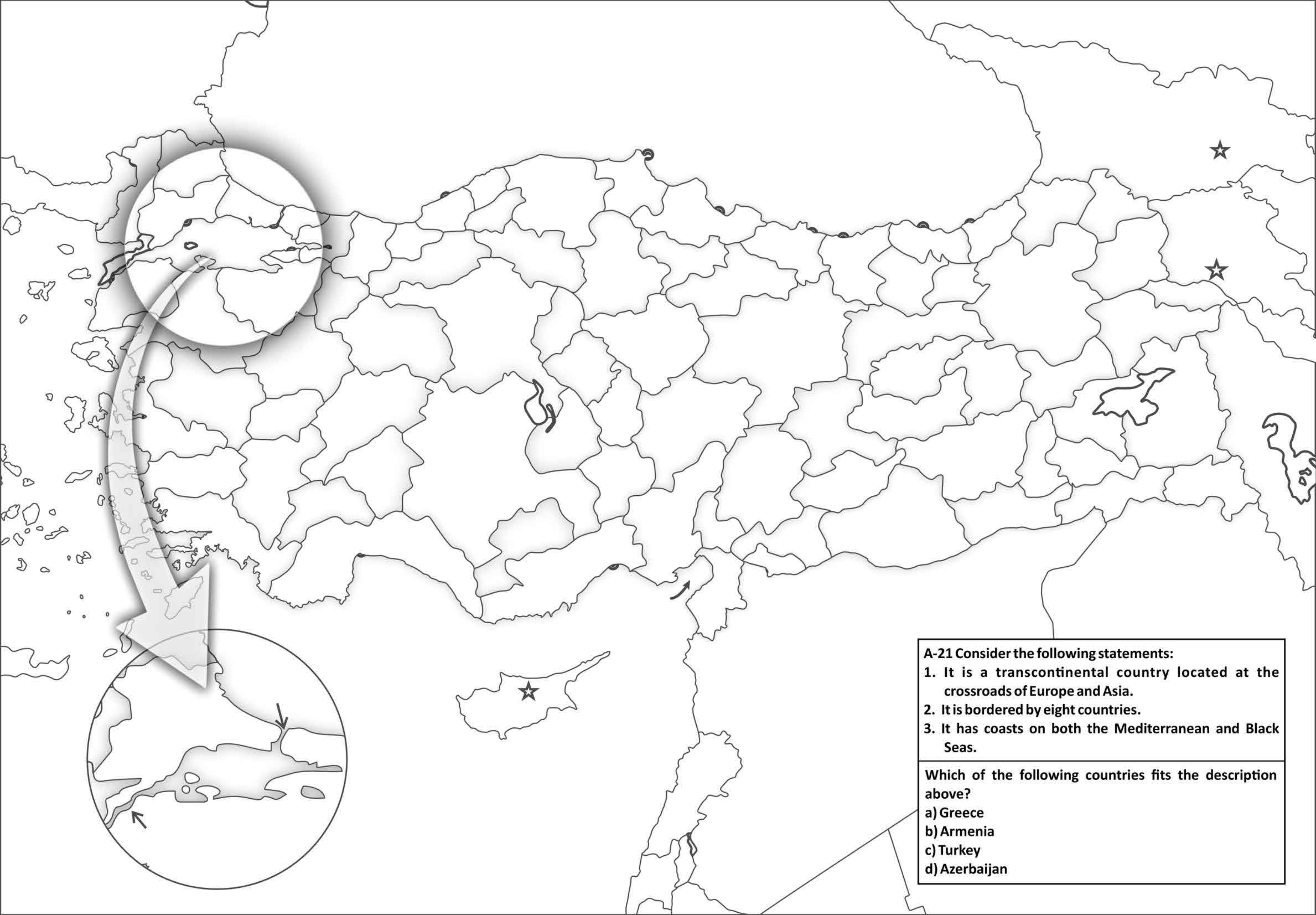
a) Mediterranean, Aegean Sea, Sea of Marmara, Bosphorus Strait, Black Sea
b) Mediterranean, Bosphorus, Black Sea
c) Mediterranean, Straits of Turkey, Black Sea Canal, Black Sea
d) Mediterranean, Sea of Marmara, Straits of Turkey, Black Sea

A-19 Ukraine borders the Black Sea and what other sea?

a) Mediterranean Sea
b) Sea of Azov
c) Sea of Ukraine
d) Brown Sea

A-20 Snake Island, which was seen in the news, is located in which Sea/Ocean?

a) Black Sea
b) Pacific Ocean
c) Mediterranean Sea
d) None of these

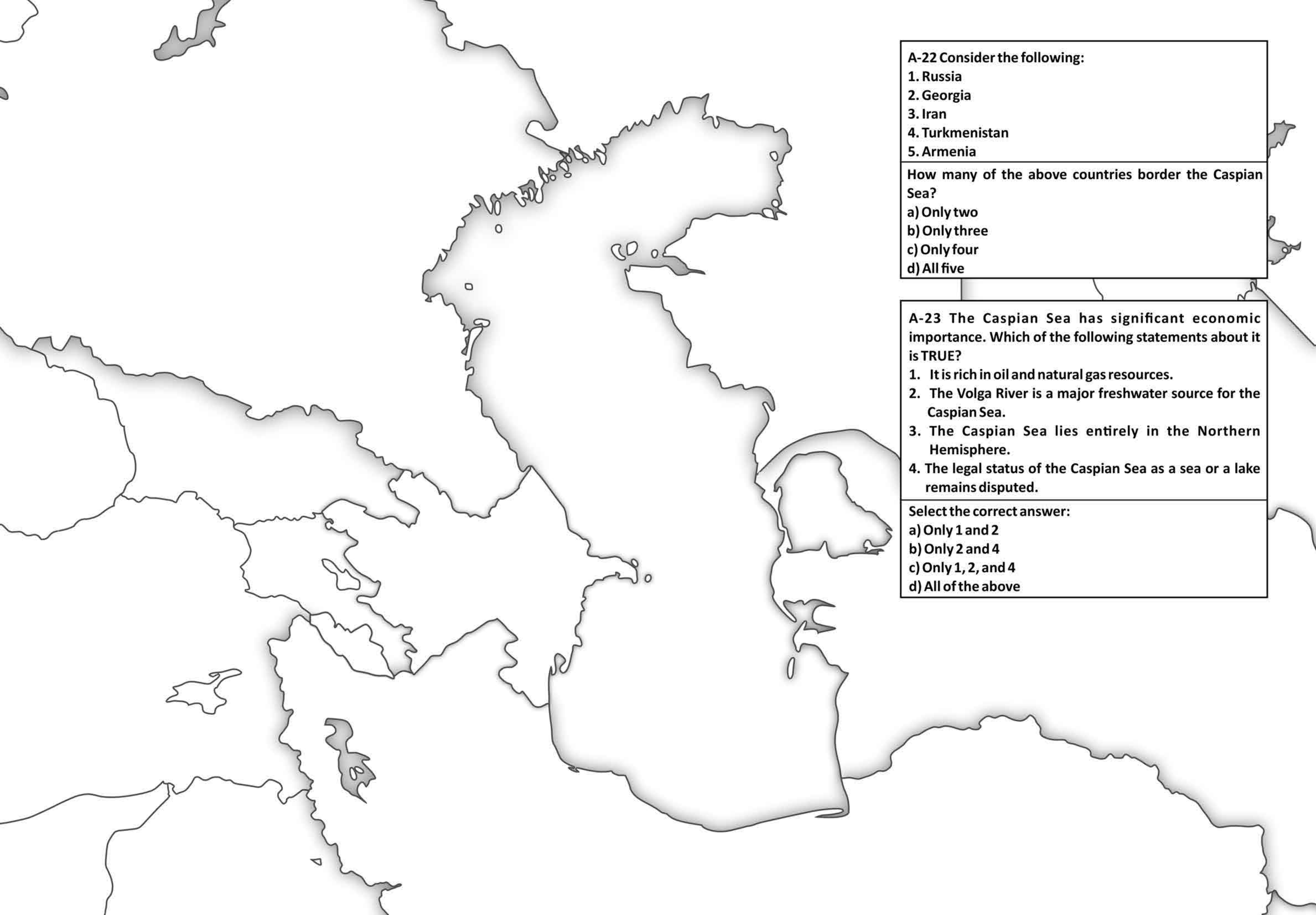


A-21 Consider the following statements:

1. **It is a transcontinental country located at the crossroads of Europe and Asia.**
2. **It is bordered by eight countries.**
3. **It has coasts on both the Mediterranean and Black Seas.**

Which of the following countries fits the description above?

a) Greece
b) Armenia
c) Turkey
d) Azerbaijan



A-22 Consider the following:

1. Russia
2. Georgia
3. Iran
4. Turkmenistan
5. Armenia

How many of the above countries border the Caspian Sea?

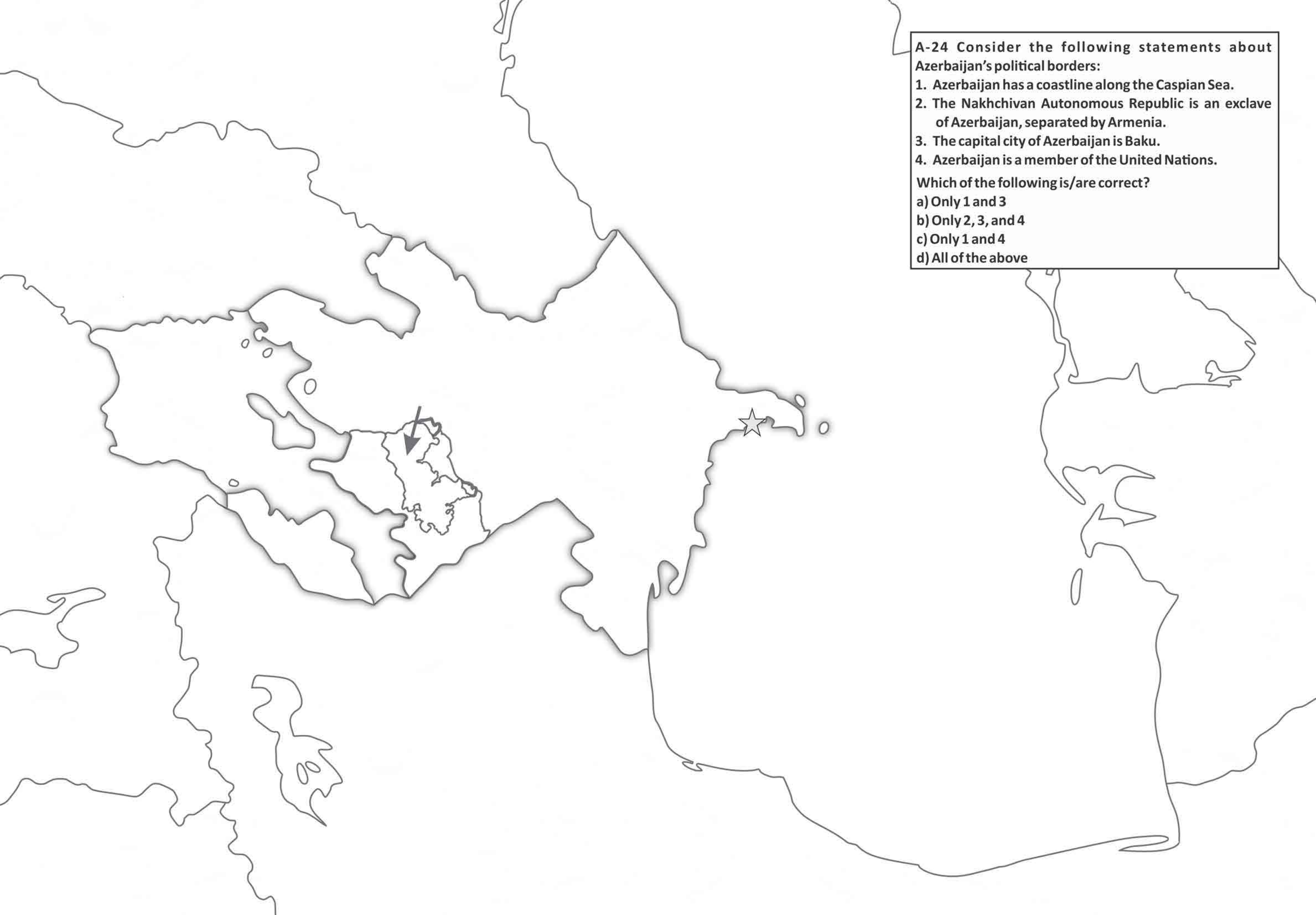
a) Only two
b) Only three
c) Only four
d) All five

A-23 The Caspian Sea has significant economic importance. Which of the following statements about it is TRUE?

1. **It is rich in oil and natural gas resources.**
2. **The Volga River is a major freshwater source for the Caspian Sea.**
3. **The Caspian Sea lies entirely in the Northern Hemisphere.**
4. **The legal status of the Caspian Sea as a sea or a lake remains disputed.**

Select the correct answer:

a) Only 1 and 2
b) Only 2 and 4
c) Only 1, 2, and 4
d) All of the above



A-24 Consider the following statements about Azerbaijan's political borders:

1. **Azerbaijan has a coastline along the Caspian Sea.**
2. **The Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic is an exclave of Azerbaijan, separated by Armenia.**
3. **The capital city of Azerbaijan is Baku.**
4. **Azerbaijan is a member of the United Nations.**

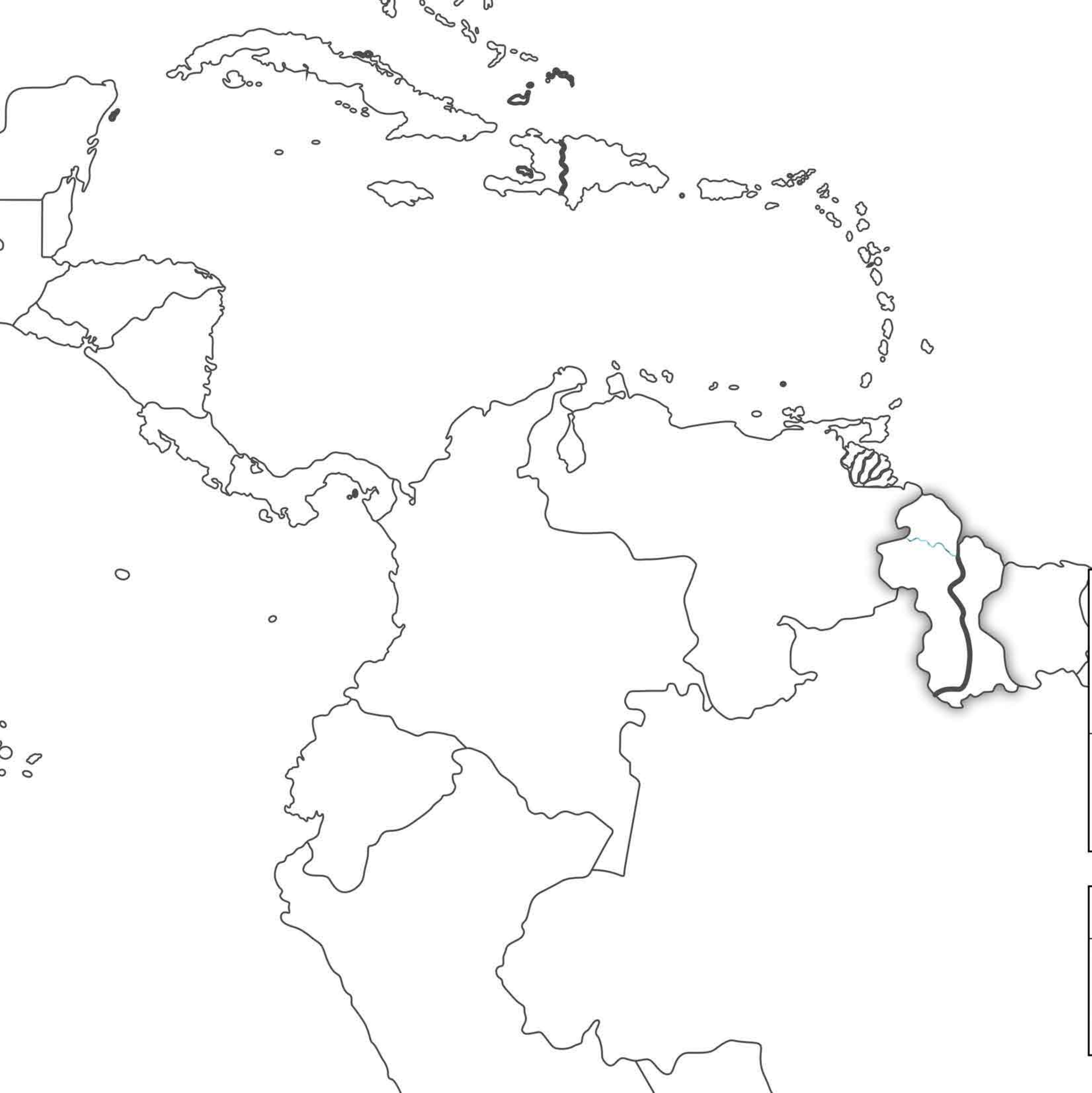
Which of the following is/are correct?

a) Only 1 and 3

b) Only 2, 3, and 4

c) Only 1 and 4

d) All of the above



A-25 With reference to Guyana, consider the following statements:

1. It is a country located in the northeastern part of South America.

2. It is bordered by Suriname, Brazil, and Venezuela.

3. It was a French colony from the early 19th century to the mid-20th century.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

a) Only one

b) Only two

c) All three

d) None

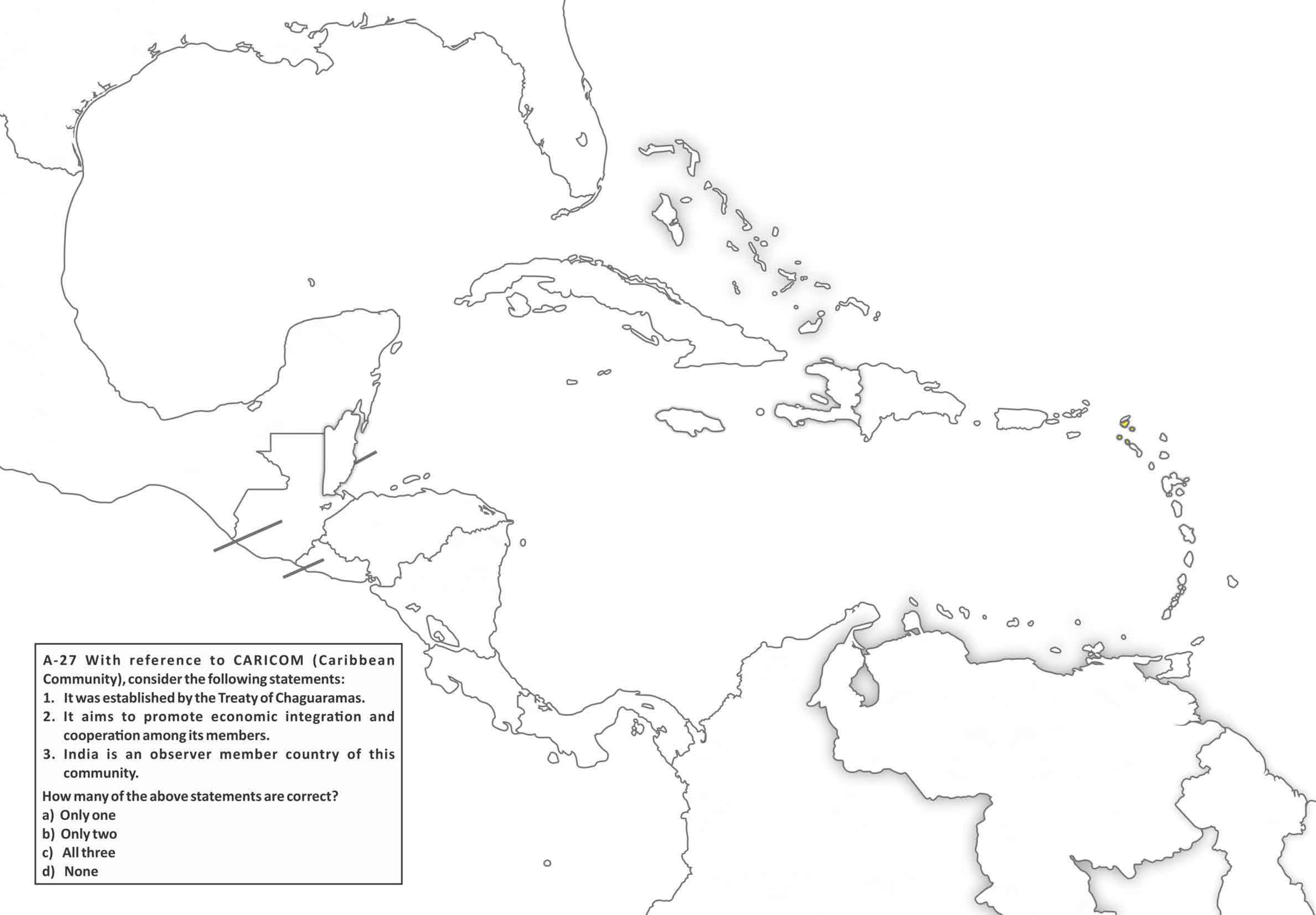
A-26 Essequibo region was recently seen in the news in context of:

a) Maritime dispute in the Aegean Sea

b) Russia-Ukraine Conflict

c) Guyana-Venezuela conflict

d) Increase in plastic pollution in the Mediterranean Sea basin



A-27 With reference to CARICOM (Caribbean Community), consider the following statements:

1. It was established by the Treaty of Chaguaramas.
2. It aims to promote economic integration and cooperation among its members.
3. India is an observer member country of this community.

How many of the above statements are correct?

a) Only one
b) Only two
c) All three
d) None

A-28 Consider the following statements:

1. It separates Southern England from Northern France.

2. It connects the Atlantic Ocean to the North Sea.

3. The Strait of Dover, the narrowest part of the channel, is approximately 34 km wide.

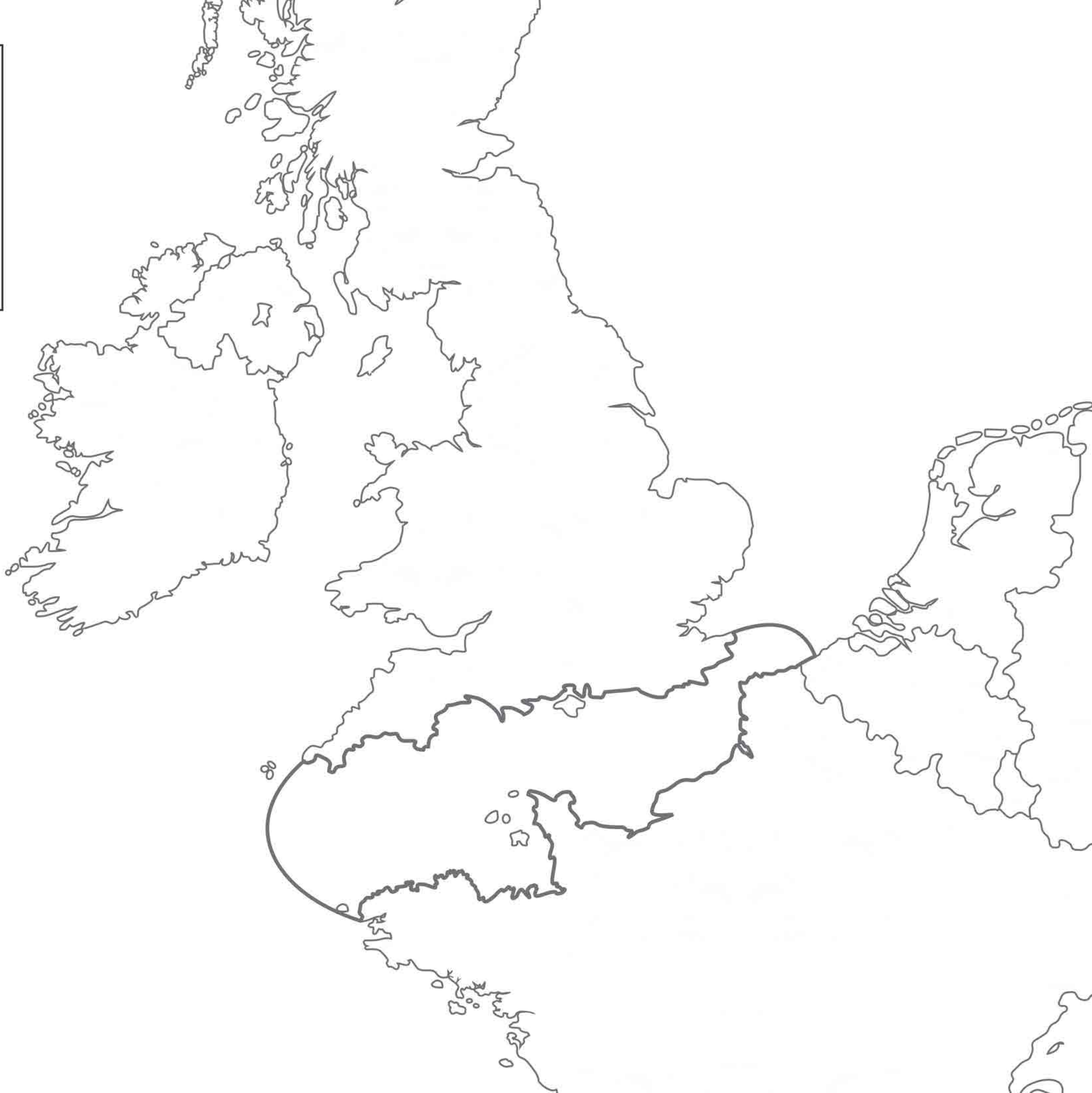
Which one of the following water bodies has been described above?

a) The Strait of Gibraltar

b) The English Channel

c) The Irish Sea

d) The Baltic Sea



A-29 Consider the following:

1. Germany
2. Russia
3. United Kingdom
4. Sweden
5. Poland

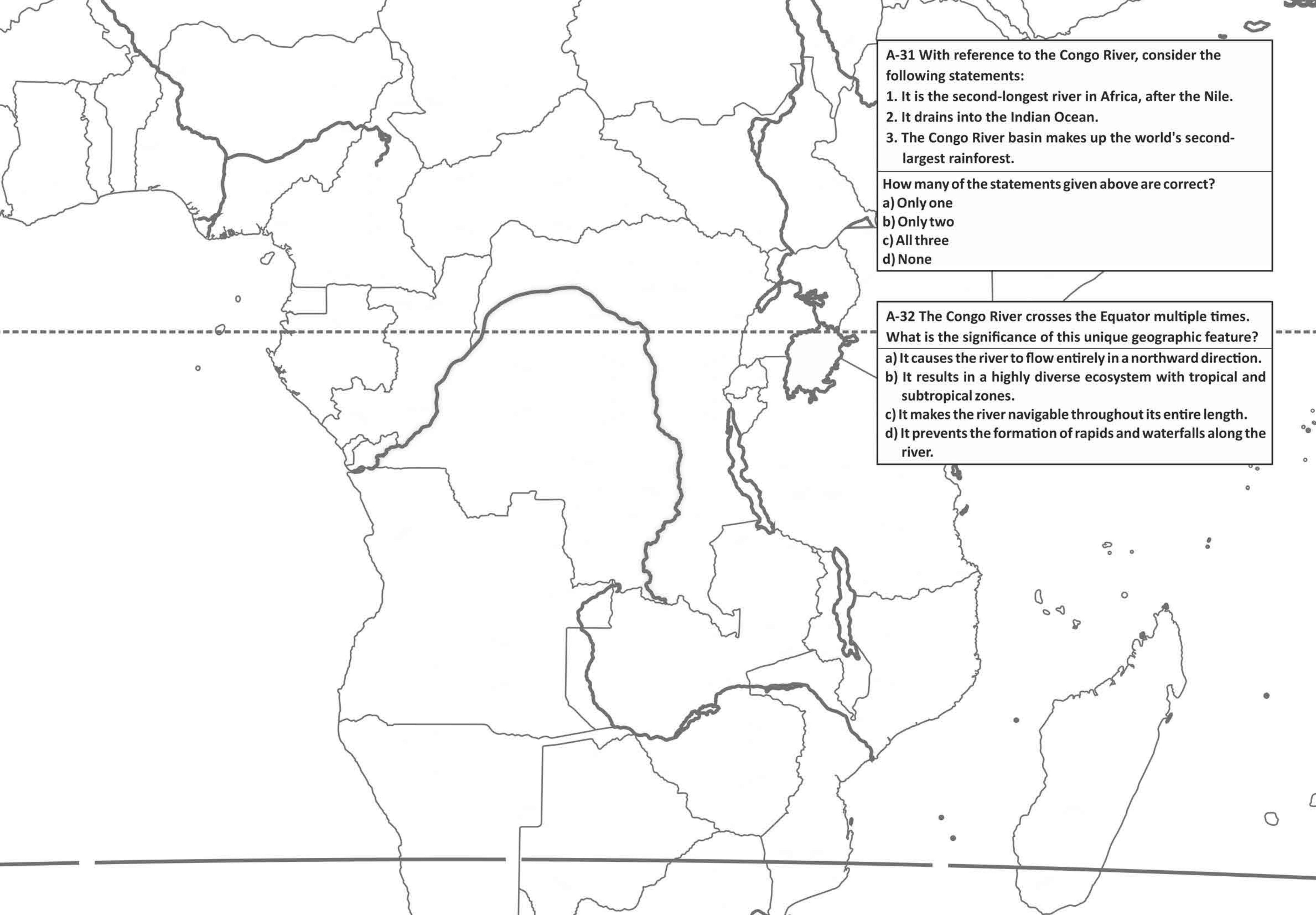
How many of the above countries border the Baltic Sea?

a) Only two
b) Only three
c) Only four
d) All five

A-30 How many of the following statements about the Baltic Sea are TRUE?

1. The Baltic Sea is the largest inland body of water in Europe.
2. It is bordered by nine countries including Sweden, Finland, and Germany.
3. Gotland, the largest island in the Baltic Sea, belongs to Denmark.
4. It is connected to the North Sea by the Keil Canal.

a) One only
b) Two only
c) Three only
d) All of the above



A-31 With reference to the Congo River, consider the following statements:

1. It is the second-longest river in Africa, after the Nile.

2. It drains into the Indian Ocean.

3. The Congo River basin makes up the world's second-largest rainforest.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

a) Only one

b) Only two

c) All three

d) None

A-32 The Congo River crosses the Equator multiple times. What is the significance of this unique geographic feature?

a) It causes the river to flow entirely in a northward direction.

b) It results in a highly diverse ecosystem with tropical and subtropical zones.

c) It makes the river navigable throughout its entire length.

d) It prevents the formation of rapids and waterfalls along the river.

A-33 Consider the following statements with respect to the country Sudan:

1. It is located in the northeastern part of Africa
2. It is Africa's third-largest country by area.
3. Sudan has a coastline on the Red Sea.

How many of the above-given statements are correct?

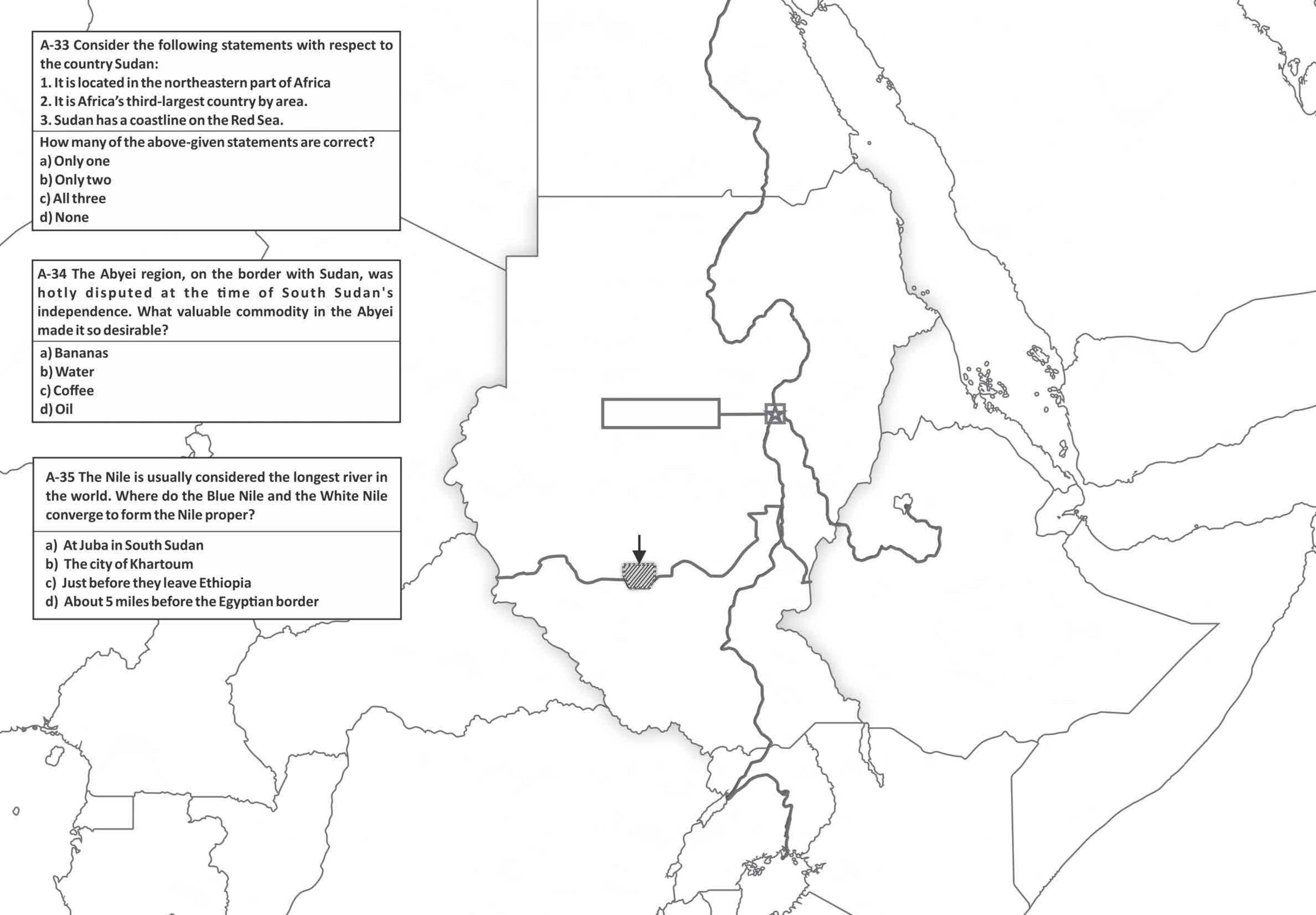
a) Only one
b) Only two
c) All three
d) None

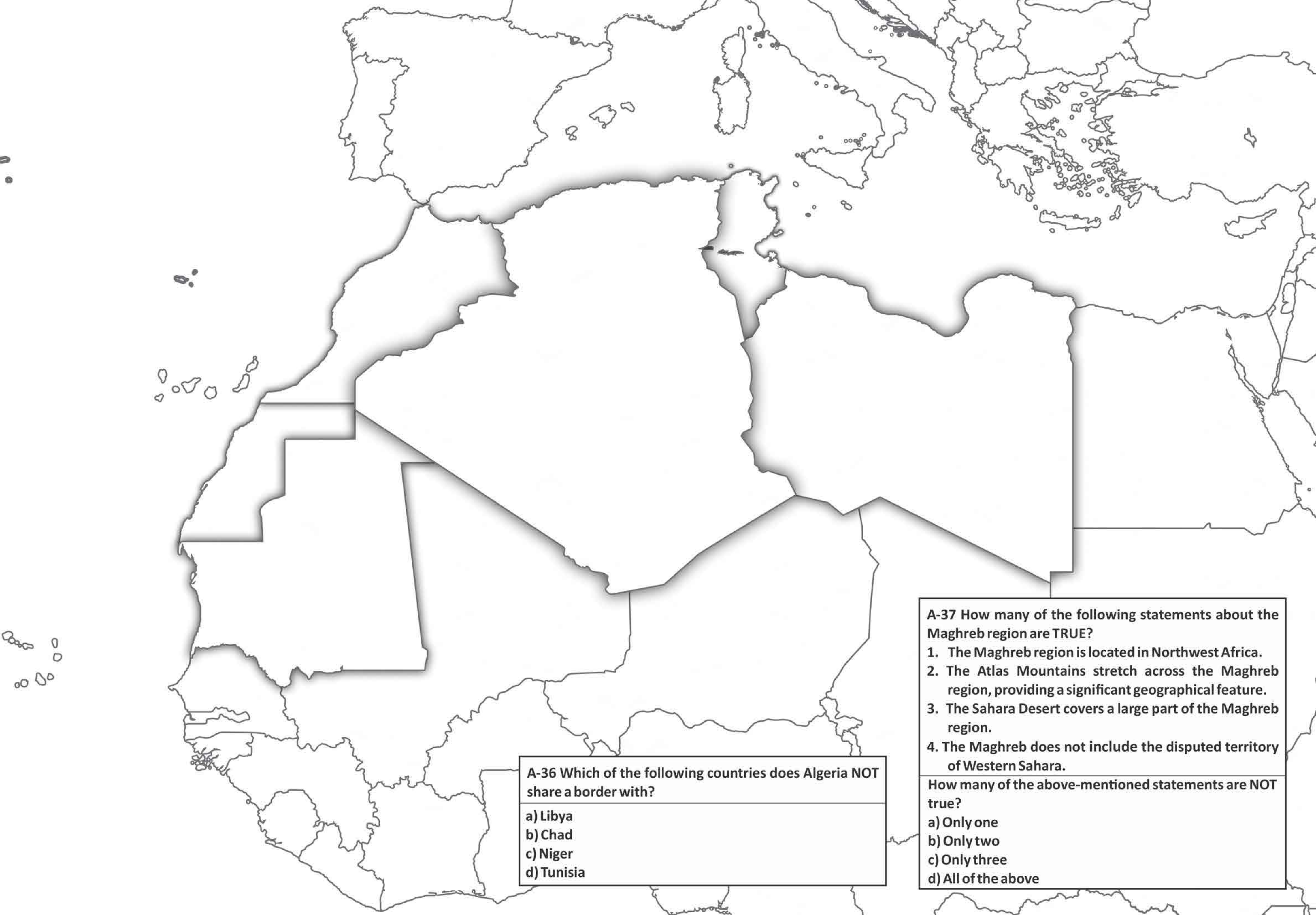
A-34 The Abyei region, on the border with Sudan, was hotly disputed at the time of South Sudan's independence. What valuable commodity in the Abyei made it so desirable?

a) Bananas
b) Water
c) Coffee
d) Oil

A-35 The Nile is usually considered the longest river in the world. Where do the Blue Nile and the White Nile converge to form the Nile proper?

a) At Juba in South Sudan
b) The city of Khartoum
c) Just before they leave Ethiopia
d) About 5 miles before the Egyptian border





A-36 Which of the following countries does Algeria NOT share a border with?

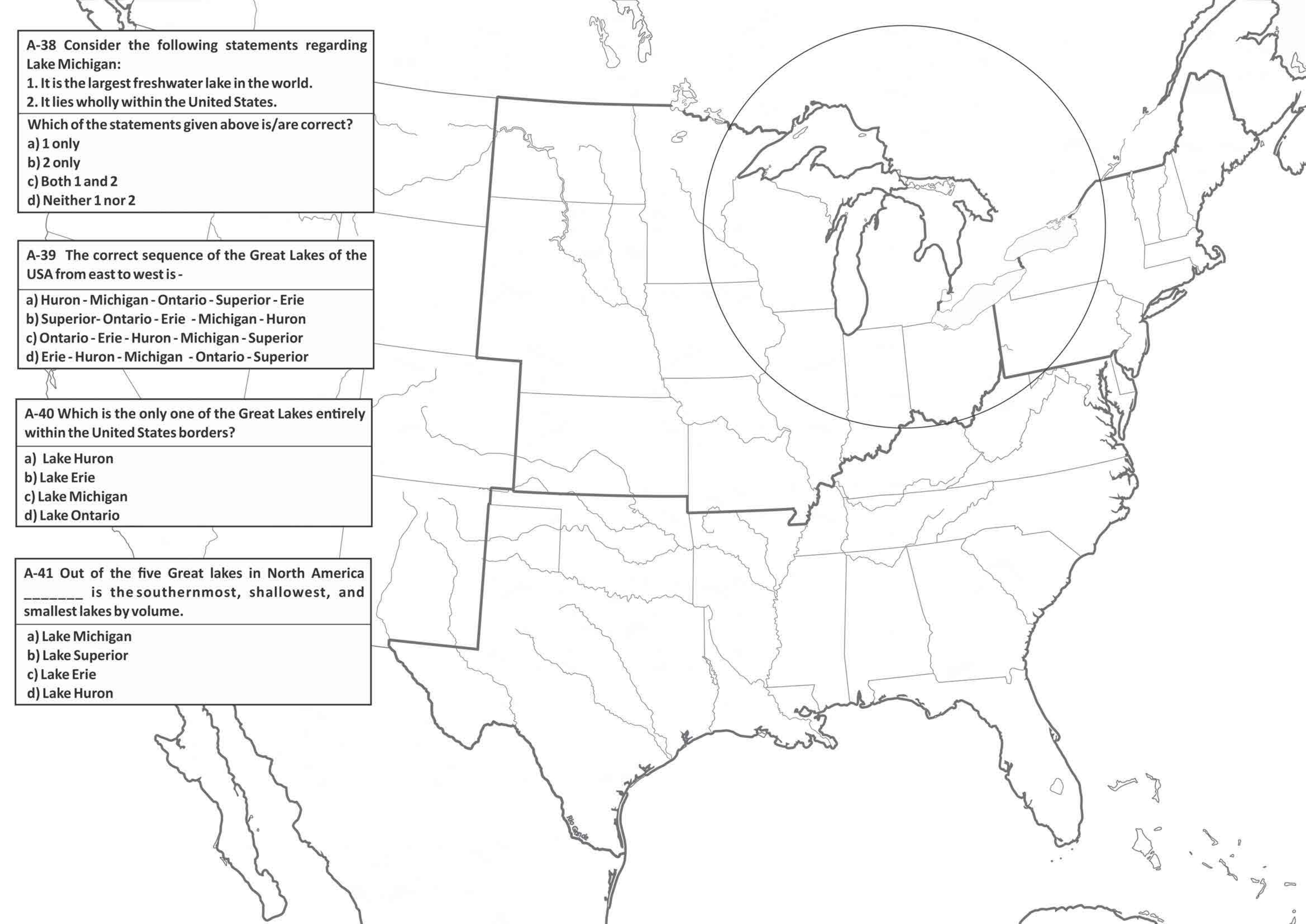
- a) Libya
- b) Chad
- c) Niger
- d) Tunisia

A-37 How many of the following statements about the Maghreb region are TRUE?

1. The Maghreb region is located in Northwest Africa.
2. The Atlas Mountains stretch across the Maghreb region, providing a significant geographical feature.
3. The Sahara Desert covers a large part of the Maghreb region.
4. The Maghreb does not include the disputed territory of Western Sahara.

How many of the above-mentioned statements are NOT true?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All of the above



A-38 Consider the following statements regarding Lake Michigan:

1. It is the largest freshwater lake in the world.
2. It lies wholly within the United States.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

A-39 The correct sequence of the Great Lakes of the USA from east to west is -

a) Huron - Michigan - Ontario - Superior - Erie
b) Superior- Ontario - Erie - Michigan - Huron
c) Ontario - Erie - Huron - Michigan - Superior
d) Erie - Huron - Michigan - Ontario - Superior

A-40 Which is the only one of the Great Lakes entirely within the United States borders?

a) Lake Huron
b) Lake Erie
c) Lake Michigan
d) Lake Ontario

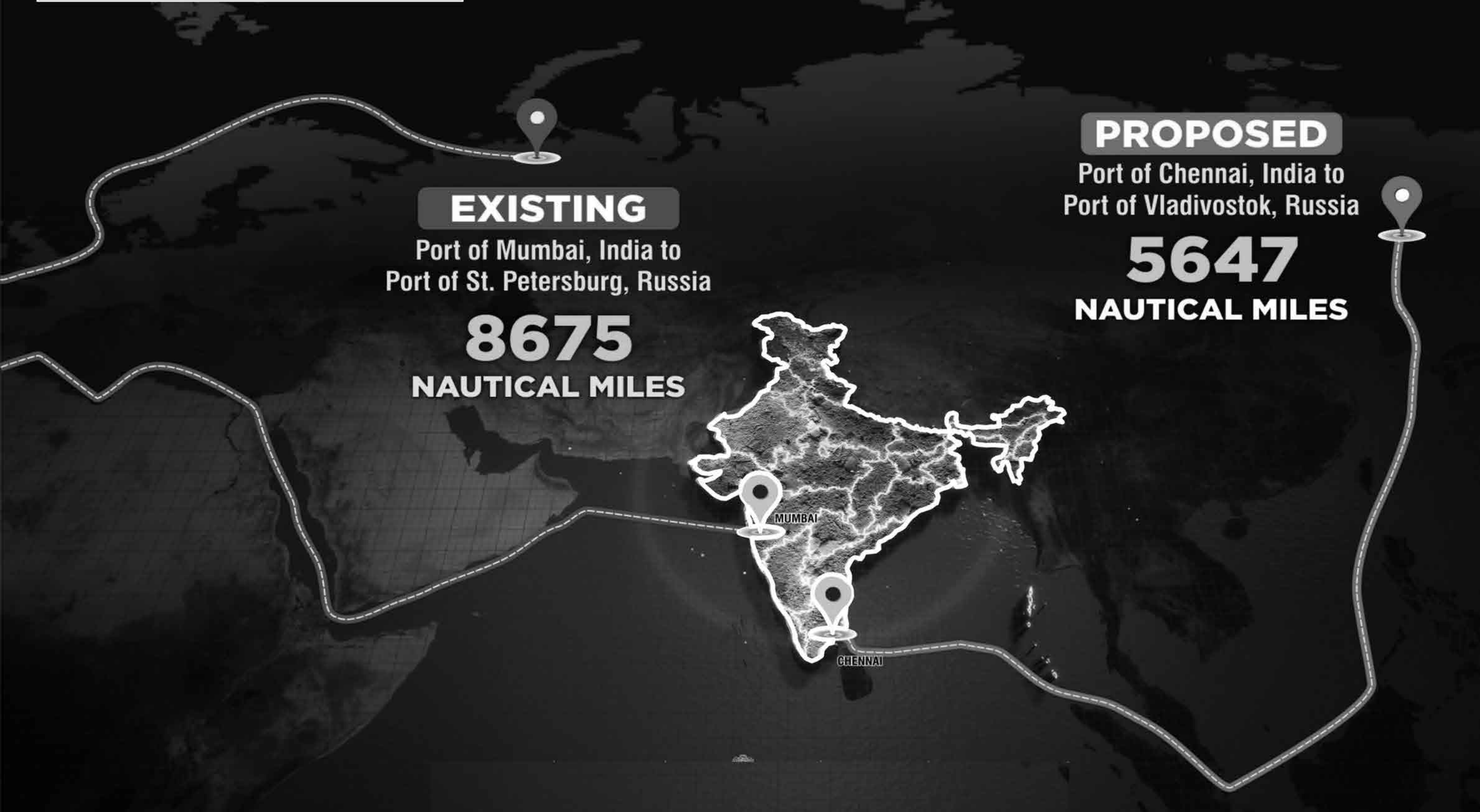
A-41 Out of the five Great lakes in North America _______ is the southernmost, shallowest, and smallest lakes by volume.

a) Lake Michigan
b) Lake Superior
c) Lake Erie
d) Lake Huron

A-42 The proposed Eastern Maritime Corridor (EMC) is expected to reduce the travel time between India and Russia. Which of the following seas will the corridor be expected to pass through?

a) Coral Sea, the Sea of Philippines, and the Tasman Sea
b) Arabian Sea, the Red Sea and the Mediterranean Sea
c) Sea of Japan, the East China Sea, and the South China Sea
d) Berring Sea, Labrador Sea, and the Barent Sea

Eastern Maritime Corridor (EMC)



EXISTING

Port of Mumbai, India to
Port of St. Petersburg, Russia

8675

NAUTICAL MILES

PROPOSED

Port of Chennai, India to
Port of Vladivostok, Russia

5647

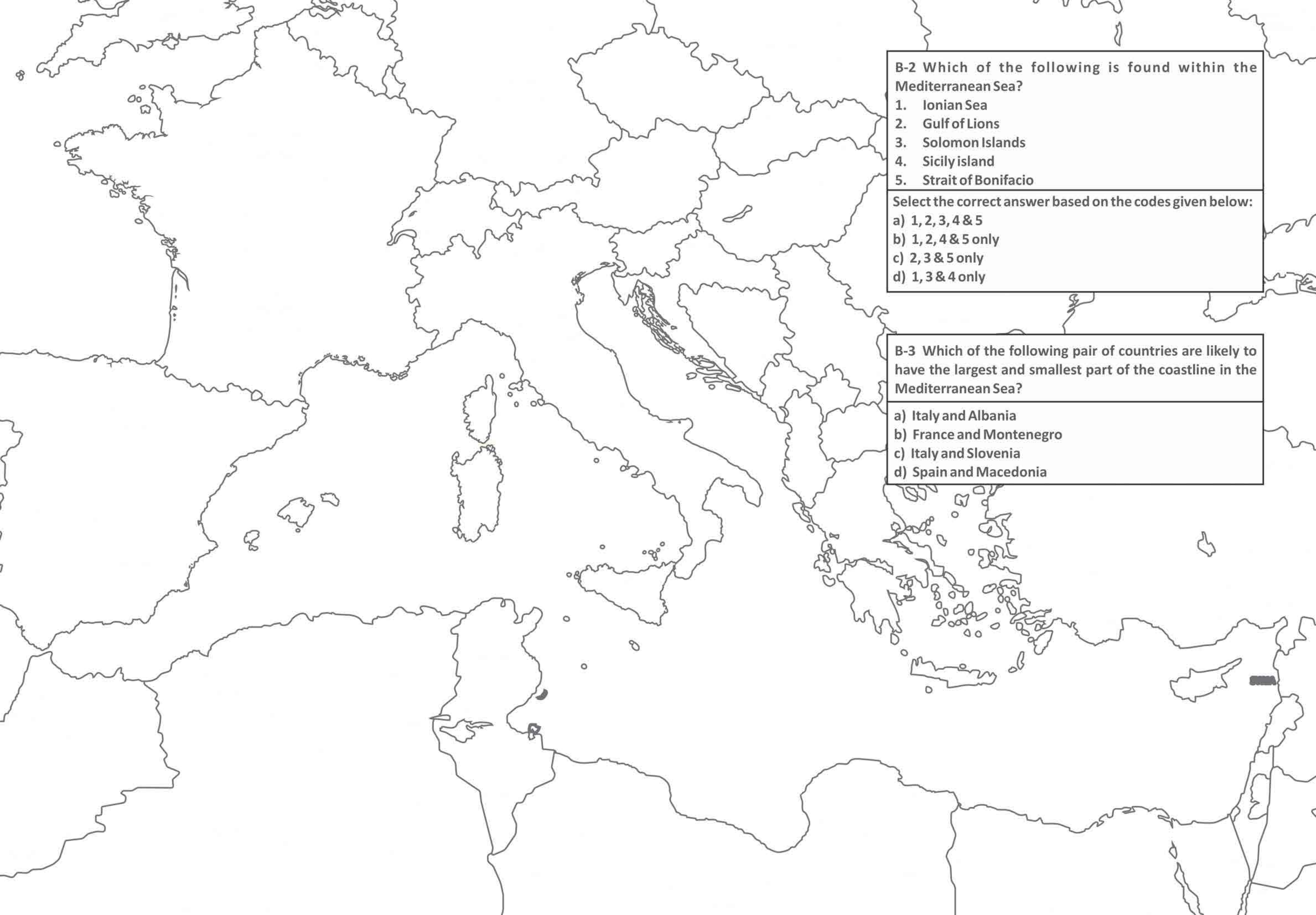
NAUTICAL MILES

B-1 Consider the following countries:

1. Montenegro
2. Malta
3. Albania
4. Algeria
5. Niger
6. Austria
7. Cameroon

From the list of countries mentioned above, what is the sum of the number of countries sharing boundaries with the Mediterranean Sea and the number of non-European countries NOT sharing border with the Mediterranean Sea?

(a) 6
(b) 7
(c) 5
(d) 8



B-2 Which of the following is found within the Mediterranean Sea?

1. Ionian Sea
2. Gulf of Lions
3. Solomon Islands
4. Sicily island
5. Strait of Bonifacio

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

a) 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5
b) 1, 2, 4 & 5 only
c) 2, 3 & 5 only
d) 1, 3 & 4 only

B-3 Which of the following pair of countries are likely to have the largest and smallest part of the coastline in the Mediterranean Sea?

a) Italy and Albania
b) France and Montenegro
c) Italy and Slovenia
d) Spain and Macedonia

B-4 Which of the following is/ are NOT correct regarding the Mediterranean Sea?

1. The Persian Gulf opens into the Mediterranean Sea through the Suez Canal.
2. The Mediterranean Sea opens into the Sea of Marmara through the Bosphorus Strait.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-5 Consider the following statements regarding the Mediterranean Sea:

1. The climate in the region is of hot and humid type in summers whereas cold and dry in the winters.
2. Tropical cyclones form very frequently in the Mediterranean Sea and cause heavy destruction in the coastal countries.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

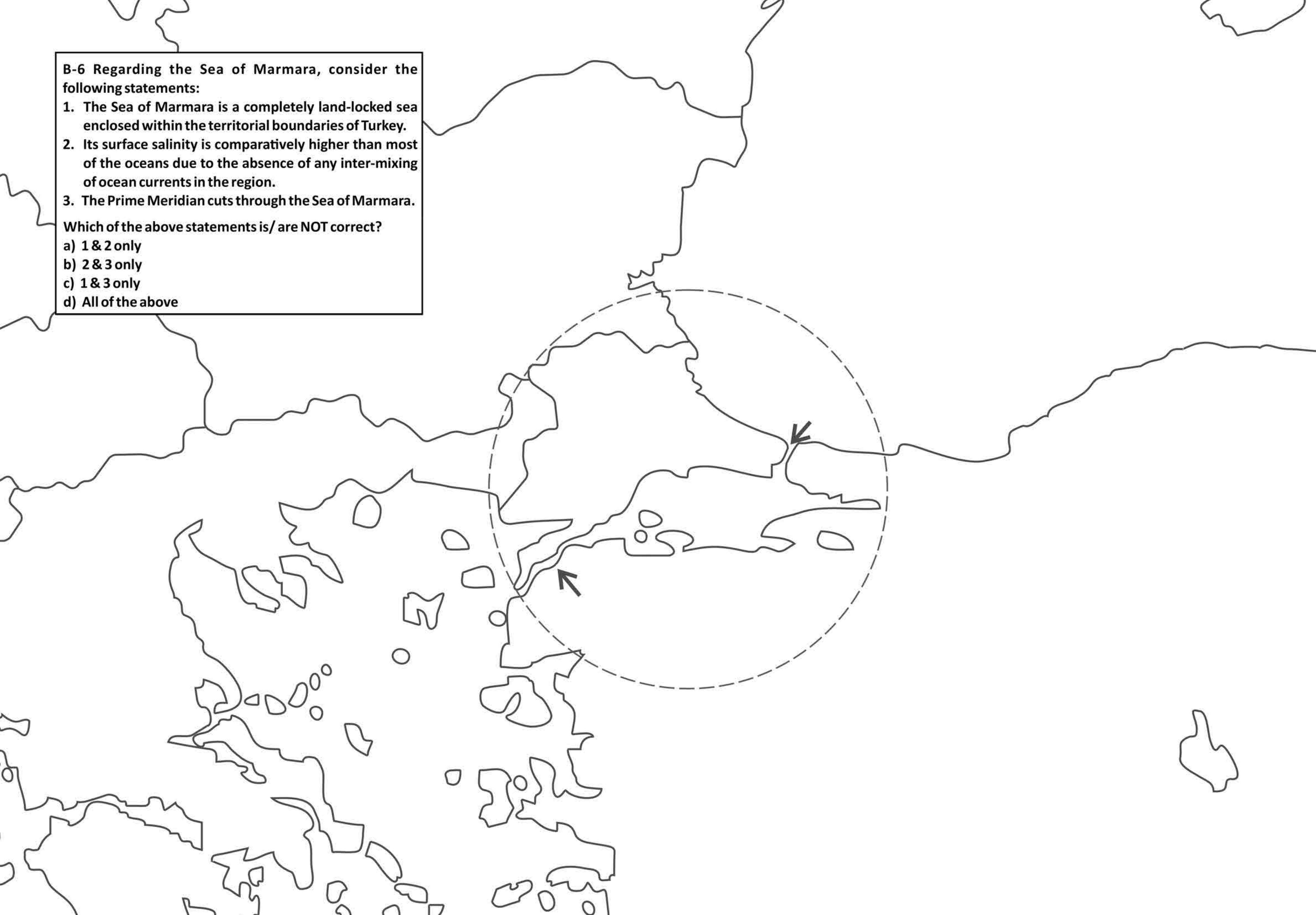
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

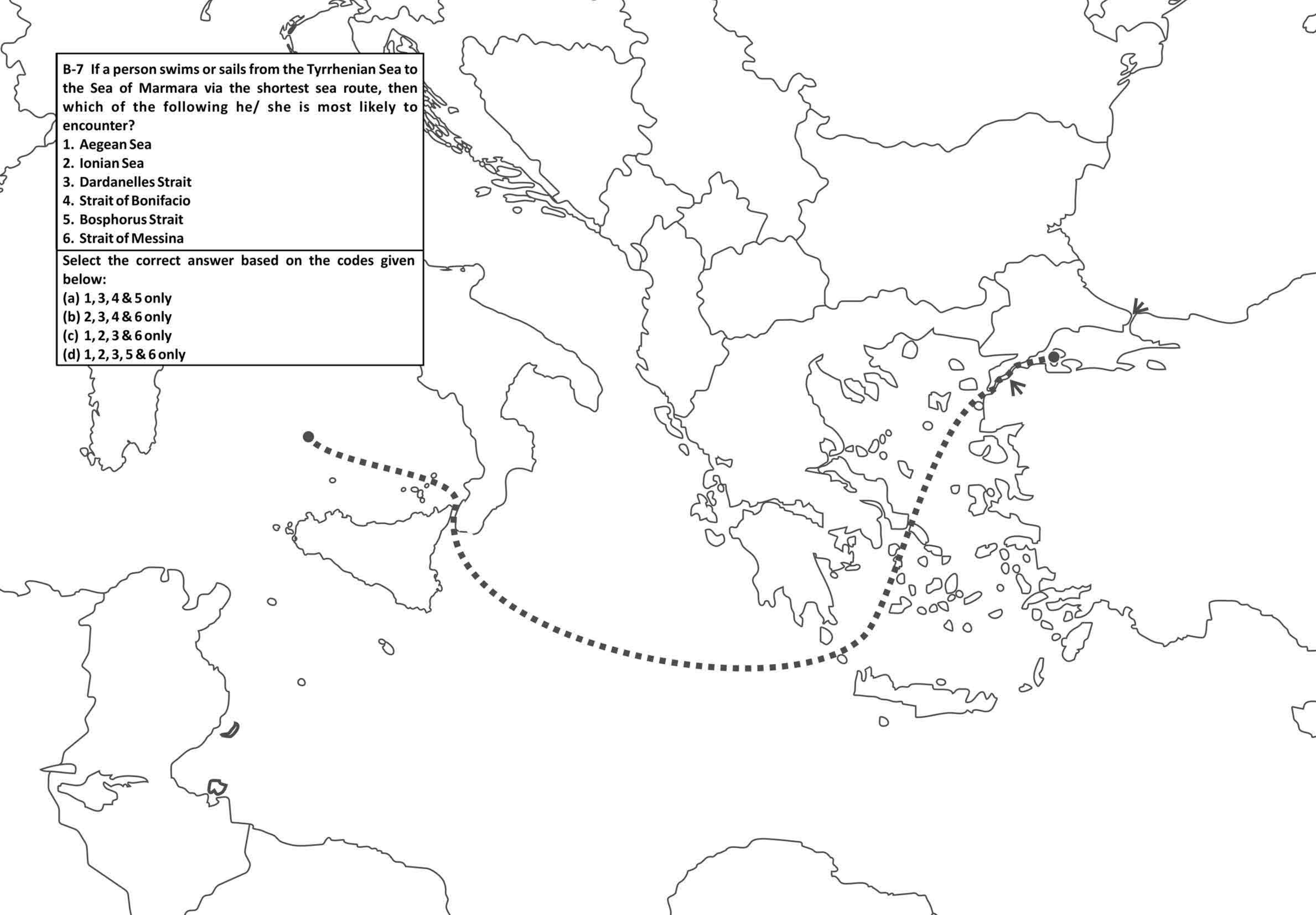
B-6 Regarding the Sea of Marmara, consider the following statements:

1. The Sea of Marmara is a completely land-locked sea enclosed within the territorial boundaries of Turkey.
2. Its surface salinity is comparatively higher than most of the oceans due to the absence of any inter-mixing of ocean currents in the region.
3. The Prime Meridian cuts through the Sea of Marmara.

Which of the above statements is/ are NOT correct?

a) 1 & 2 only
b) 2 & 3 only
c) 1 & 3 only
d) All of the above



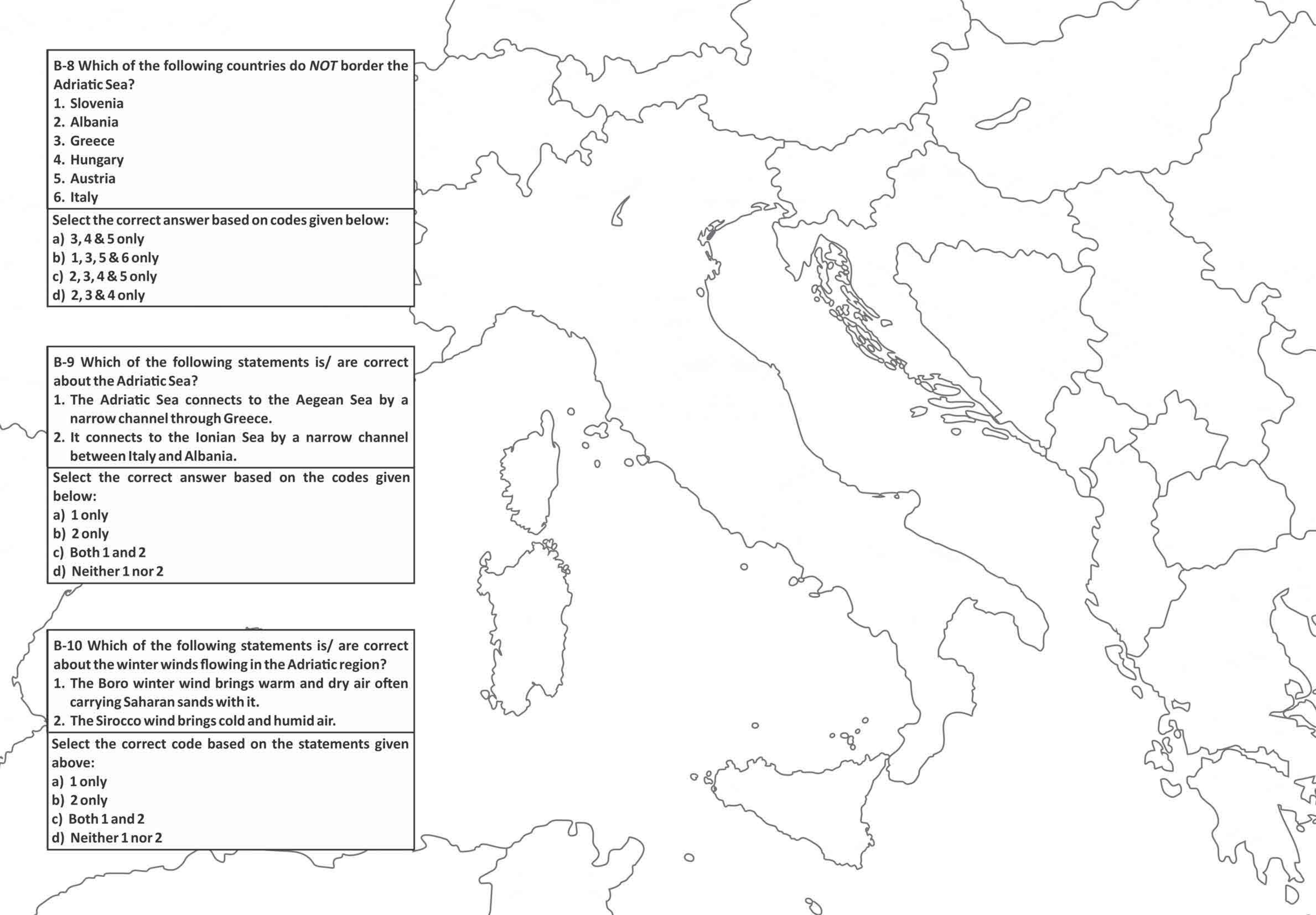


B-7 If a person swims or sails from the Tyrrhenian Sea to the Sea of Marmara via the shortest sea route, then which of the following he/ she is most likely to encounter?

1. **Aegean Sea**
2. **Ionian Sea**
3. **Dardanelles Strait**
4. **Strait of Bonifacio**
5. **Bosphorus Strait**
6. **Strait of Messina**

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1, 3, 4 & 5 only
(b) 2, 3, 4 & 6 only
(c) 1, 2, 3 & 6 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 5 & 6 only



B-8 Which of the following countries do *NOT* border the Adriatic Sea?

1. **Slovenia**
2. **Albania**
3. **Greece**
4. **Hungary**
5. **Austria**
6. **Italy**

Select the correct answer based on codes given below:

a) 3, 4 & 5 only
b) 1, 3, 5 & 6 only
c) 2, 3, 4 & 5 only
d) 2, 3 & 4 only

B-9 Which of the following statements is/ are correct about the Adriatic Sea?

1. **The Adriatic Sea connects to the Aegean Sea by a narrow channel through Greece.**
2. **It connects to the Ionian Sea by a narrow channel between Italy and Albania.**

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

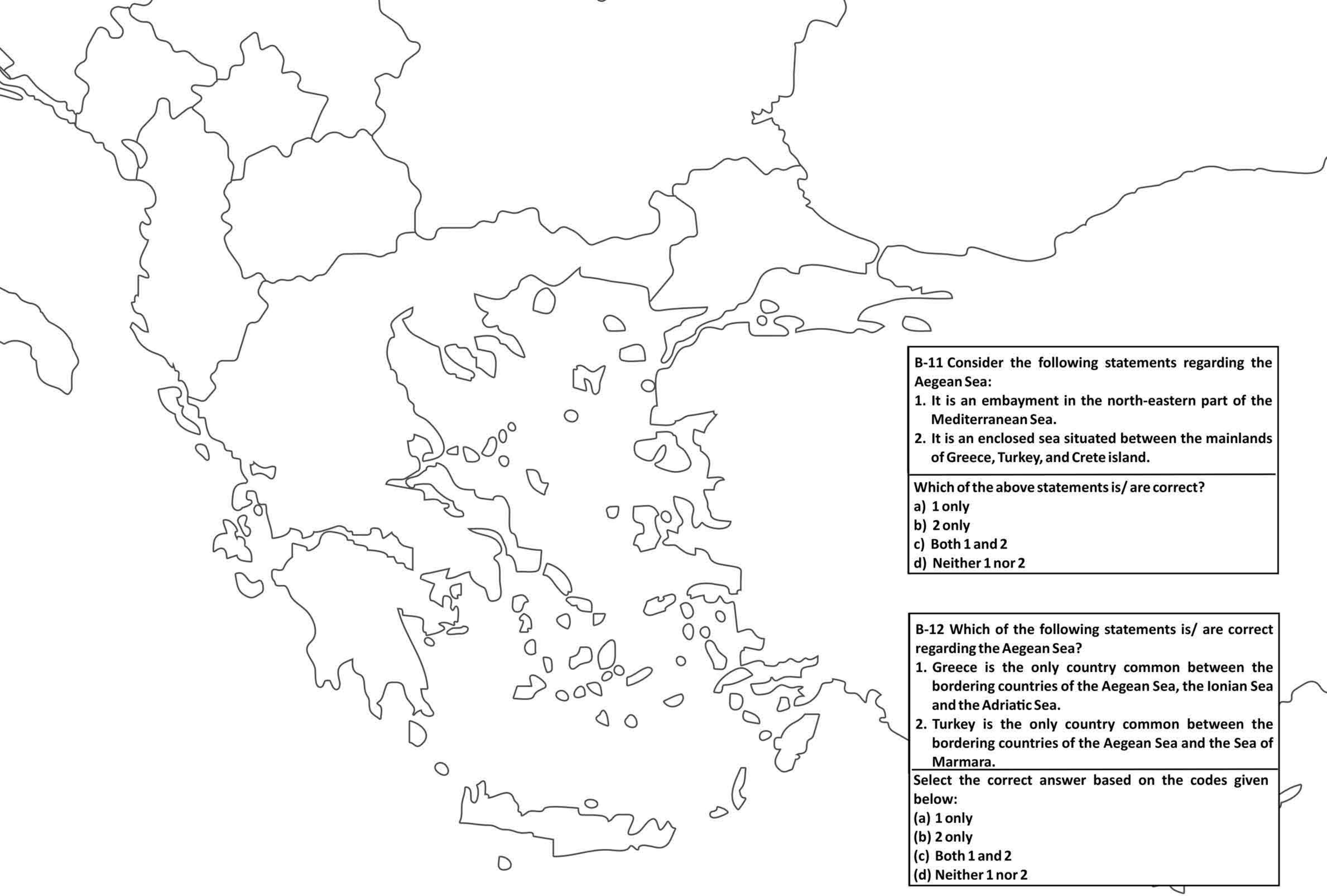
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-10 Which of the following statements is/ are correct about the winter winds flowing in the Adriatic region?

1. **The Boro winter wind brings warm and dry air often carrying Saharan sands with it.**
2. **The Sirocco wind brings cold and humid air.**

Select the correct code based on the statements given above:

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2



B-11 Consider the following statements regarding the Aegean Sea:

1. It is an embayment in the north-eastern part of the Mediterranean Sea.
2. It is an enclosed sea situated between the mainlands of Greece, Turkey, and Crete island.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

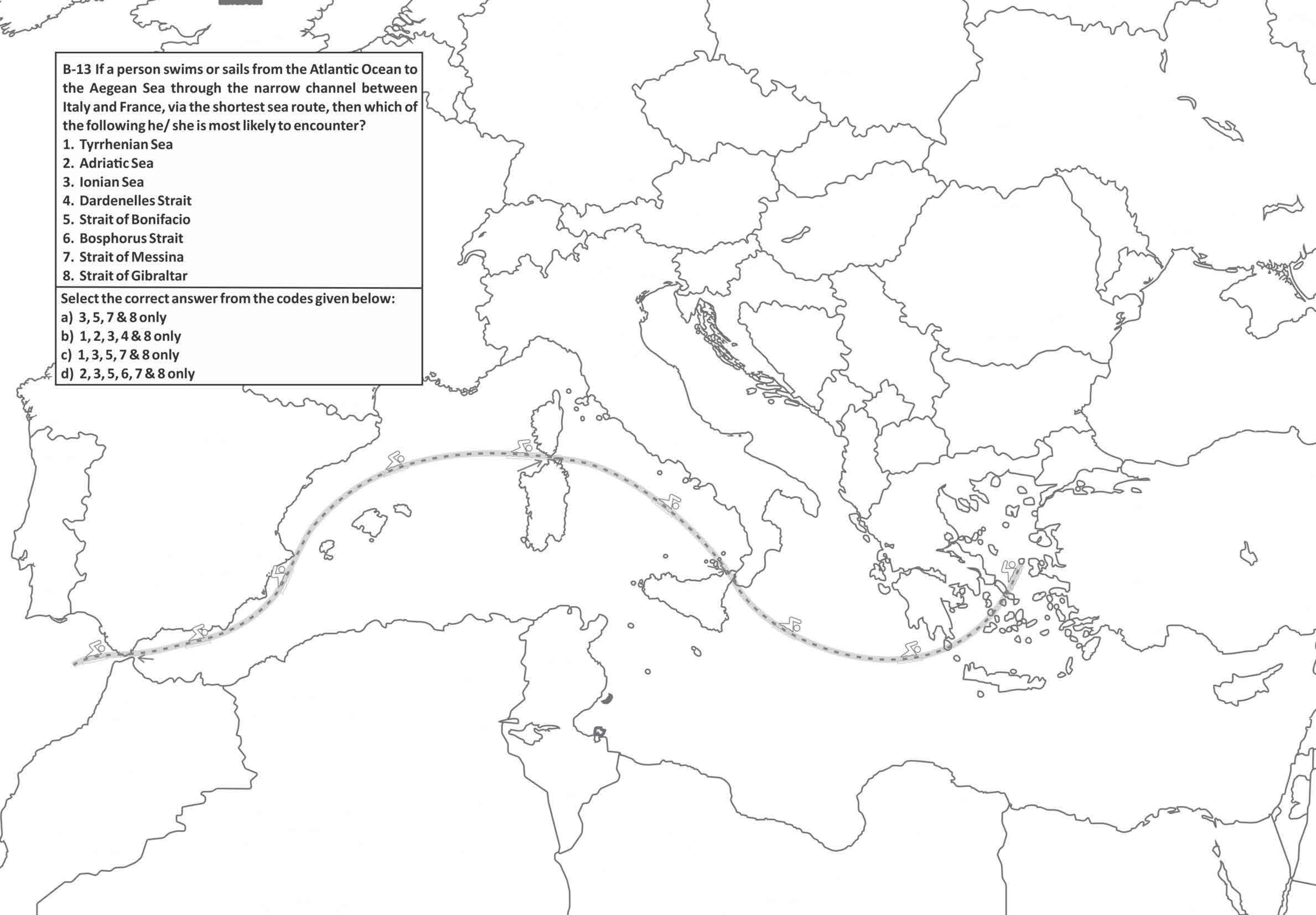
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-12 Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding the Aegean Sea?

1. Greece is the only country common between the bordering countries of the Aegean Sea, the Ionian Sea and the Adriatic Sea.
2. Turkey is the only country common between the bordering countries of the Aegean Sea and the Sea of Marmara.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

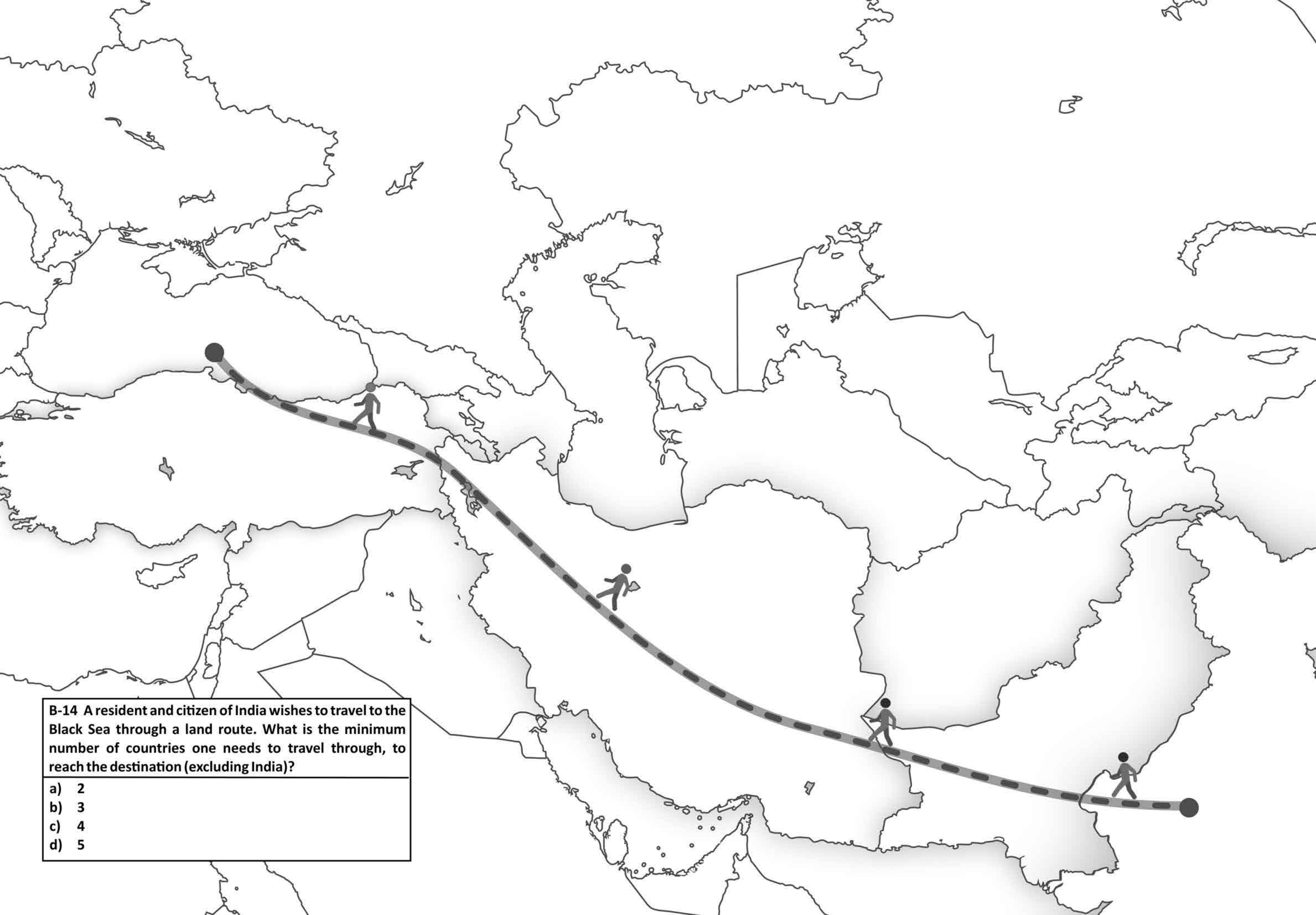


B-13 If a person swims or sails from the Atlantic Ocean to the Aegean Sea through the narrow channel between Italy and France, via the shortest sea route, then which of the following he/ she is most likely to encounter?

1. **Tyrrhenian Sea**
2. **Adriatic Sea**
3. **Ionian Sea**
4. **Dardenelles Strait**
5. **Strait of Bonifacio**
6. **Bosphorus Strait**
7. **Strait of Messina**
8. **Strait of Gibraltar**

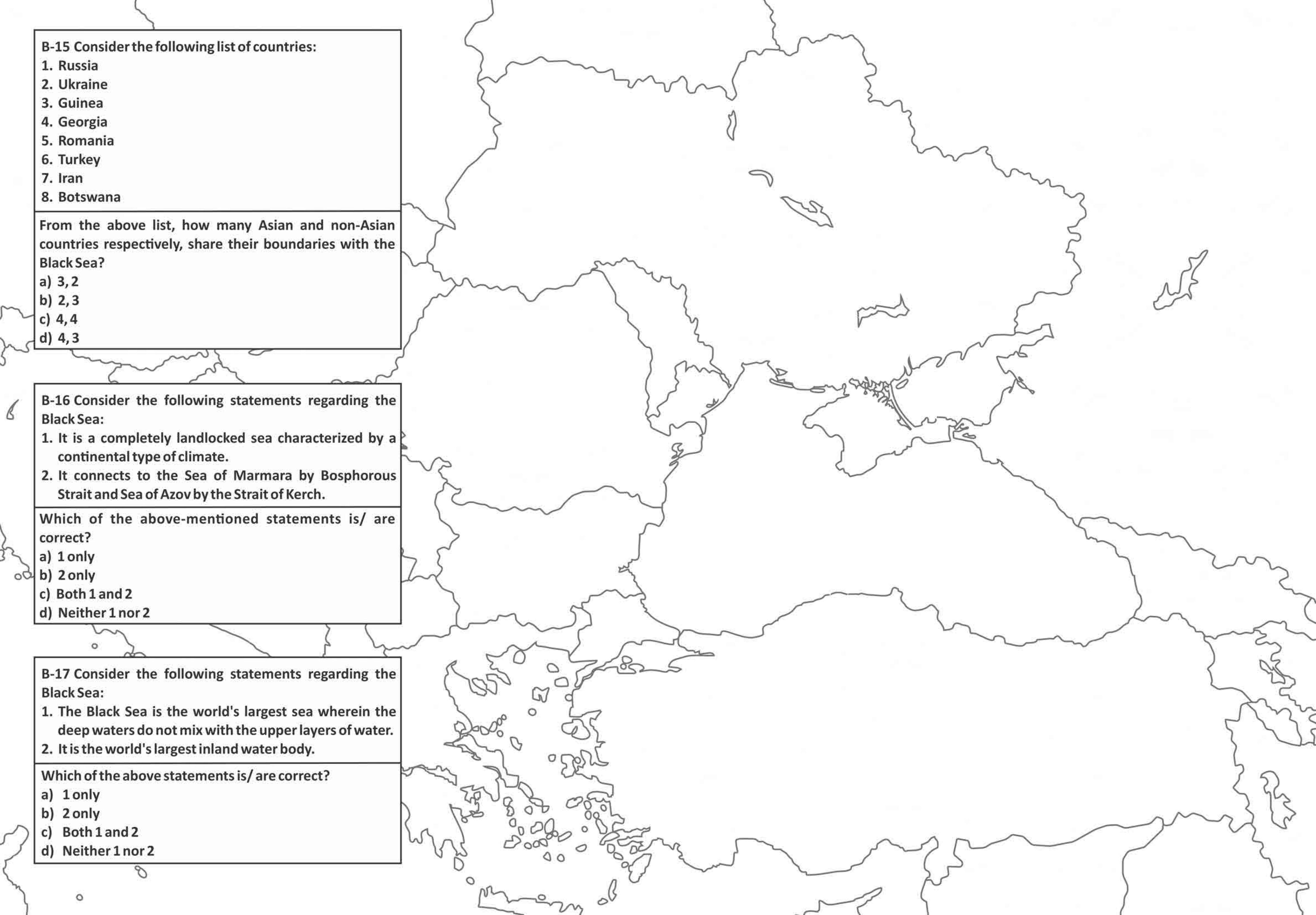
Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

a) 3, 5, 7 & 8 only
b) 1, 2, 3, 4 & 8 only
c) 1, 3, 5, 7 & 8 only
d) 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 & 8 only



B-14 A resident and citizen of India wishes to travel to the Black Sea through a land route. What is the minimum number of countries one needs to travel through, to reach the destination (excluding India)?

a) 2
b) 3
c) 4
d) 5



B-15 Consider the following list of countries:

1. Russia
2. Ukraine
3. Guinea
4. Georgia
5. Romania
6. Turkey
7. Iran
8. Botswana

From the above list, how many Asian and non-Asian countries respectively, share their boundaries with the Black Sea?

a) 3, 2
b) 2, 3
c) 4, 4
d) 4, 3

B-16 Consider the following statements regarding the Black Sea:

1. It is a completely landlocked sea characterized by a continental type of climate.
2. It connects to the Sea of Marmara by Bosphorous Strait and Sea of Azov by the Strait of Kerch.

Which of the above-mentioned statements is/ are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-17 Consider the following statements regarding the Black Sea:

1. The Black Sea is the world's largest sea wherein the deep waters do not mix with the upper layers of water.
2. It is the world's largest inland water body.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-18 Consider the following statements about Sea of Azov:

1. It is the shallowest in the world.
2. It is connected to the Black Sea by the Strait of Kerch.
3. It is bordered by Ukraine and Russia.

Which of the above statement(s) is/ are correct?

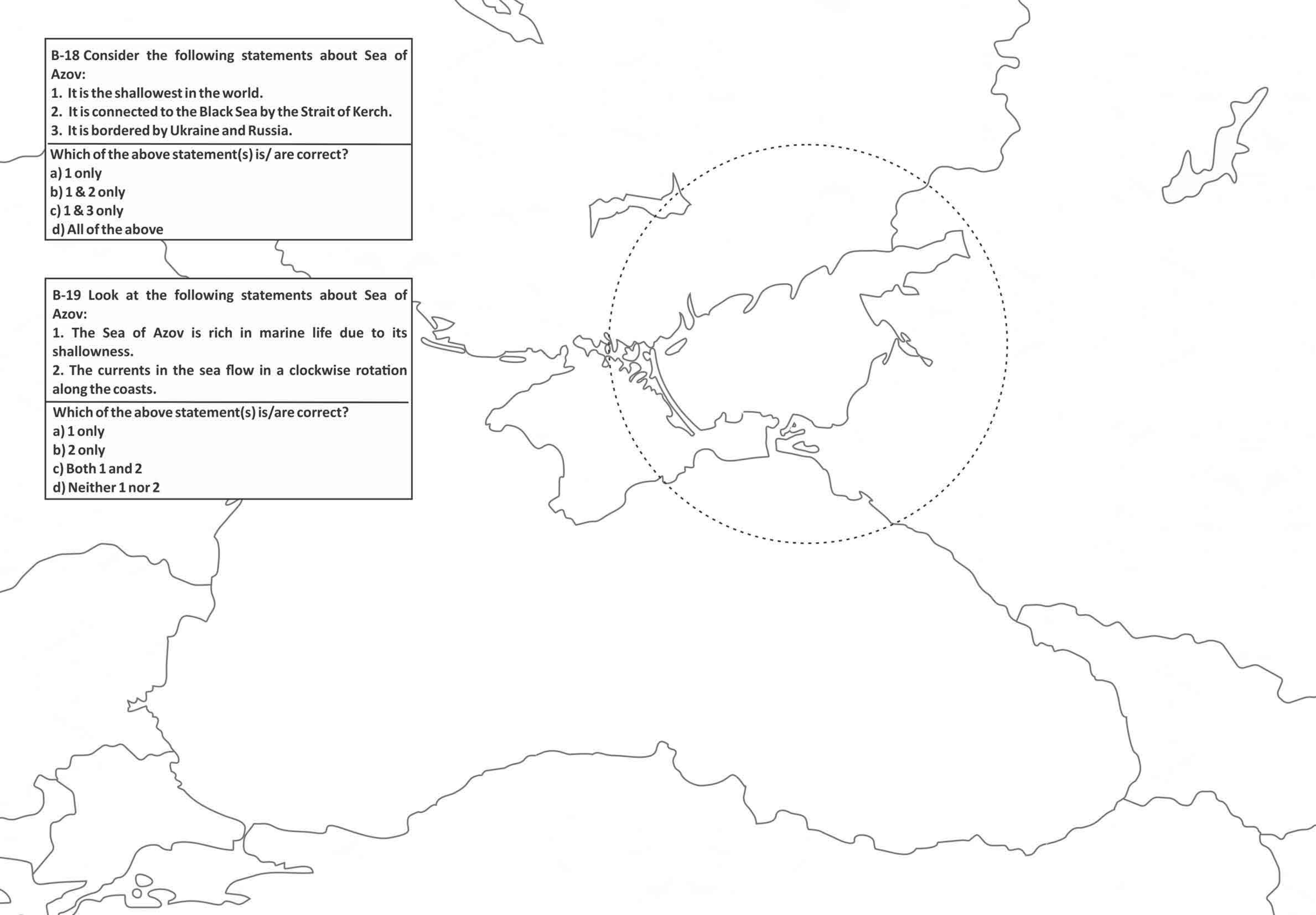
a) 1 only
b) 1 & 2 only
c) 1 & 3 only
d) All of the above

B-19 Look at the following statements about Sea of Azov:

1. The Sea of Azov is rich in marine life due to its shallowness.
2. The currents in the sea flow in a clockwise rotation along the coasts.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2



B-20 With which of the following does the Celtic Sea share its boundaries?

1. The English Channel
2. North Sea
3. Irish Channel
4. Bay of Biscay
5. Spain
6. France
7. Pacific Ocean

Select the correct answer based on the codes provided below:

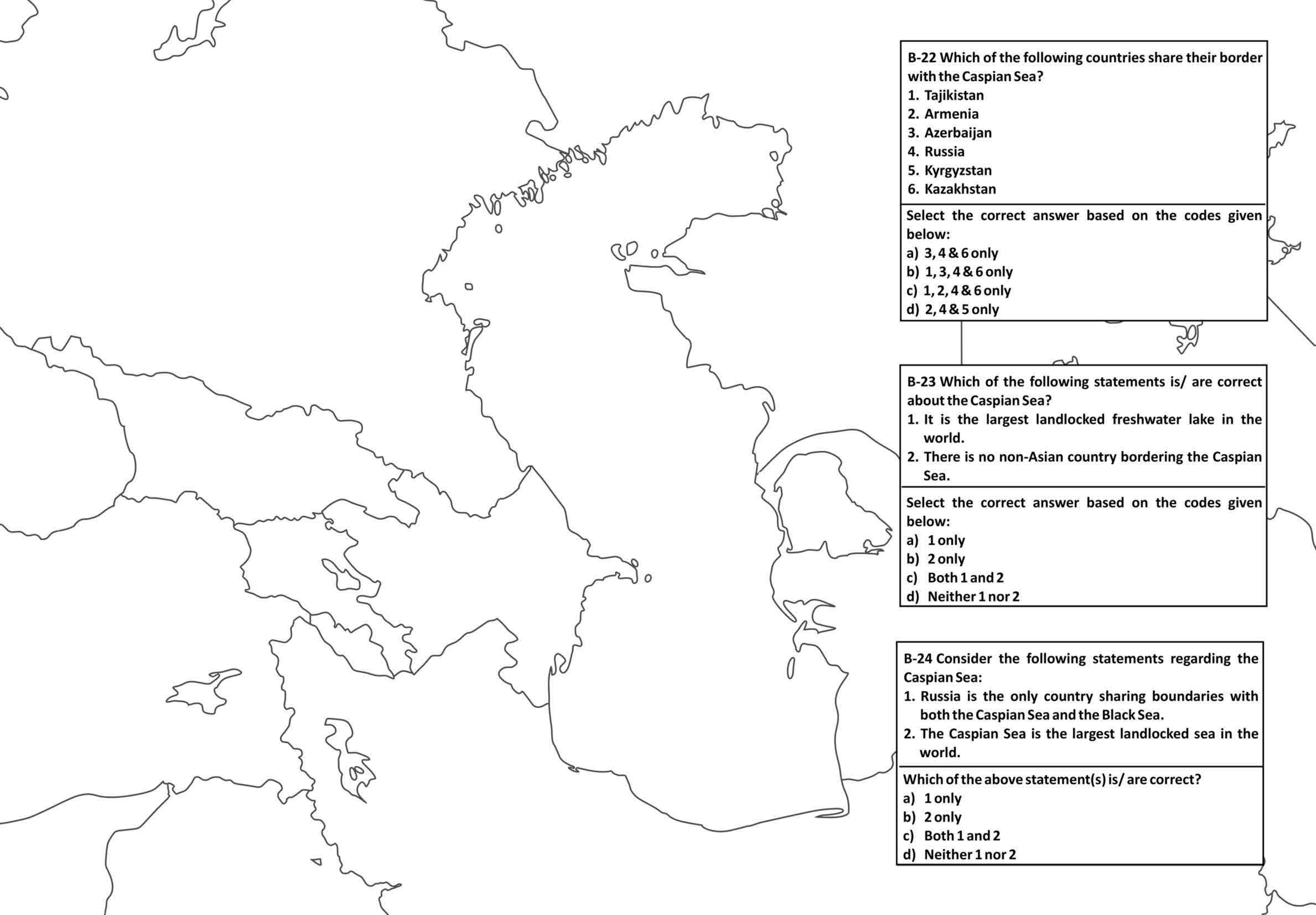
a) 1, 2, 3 and 6 only
b) 1, 3, 4 and 6 only
c) 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only
d) 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7 only

B-21 Consider the following statements regarding the Celtic Sea:

1. Both the Mediterranean Sea and the Celtic Sea share their boundaries with Spain and France.
2. The Celtic Sea is not directly connected to the Mediterranean Sea through any narrow channel of water.

Which of the above-given statement(s) is/ are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2



B-22 Which of the following countries share their border with the Caspian Sea?

1. Tajikistan
2. Armenia
3. Azerbaijan
4. Russia
5. Kyrgyzstan
6. Kazakhstan

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

a) 3, 4 & 6 only
b) 1, 3, 4 & 6 only
c) 1, 2, 4 & 6 only
d) 2, 4 & 5 only

B-23 Which of the following statements is/ are correct about the Caspian Sea?

1. It is the largest landlocked freshwater lake in the world.
2. There is no non-Asian country bordering the Caspian Sea.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

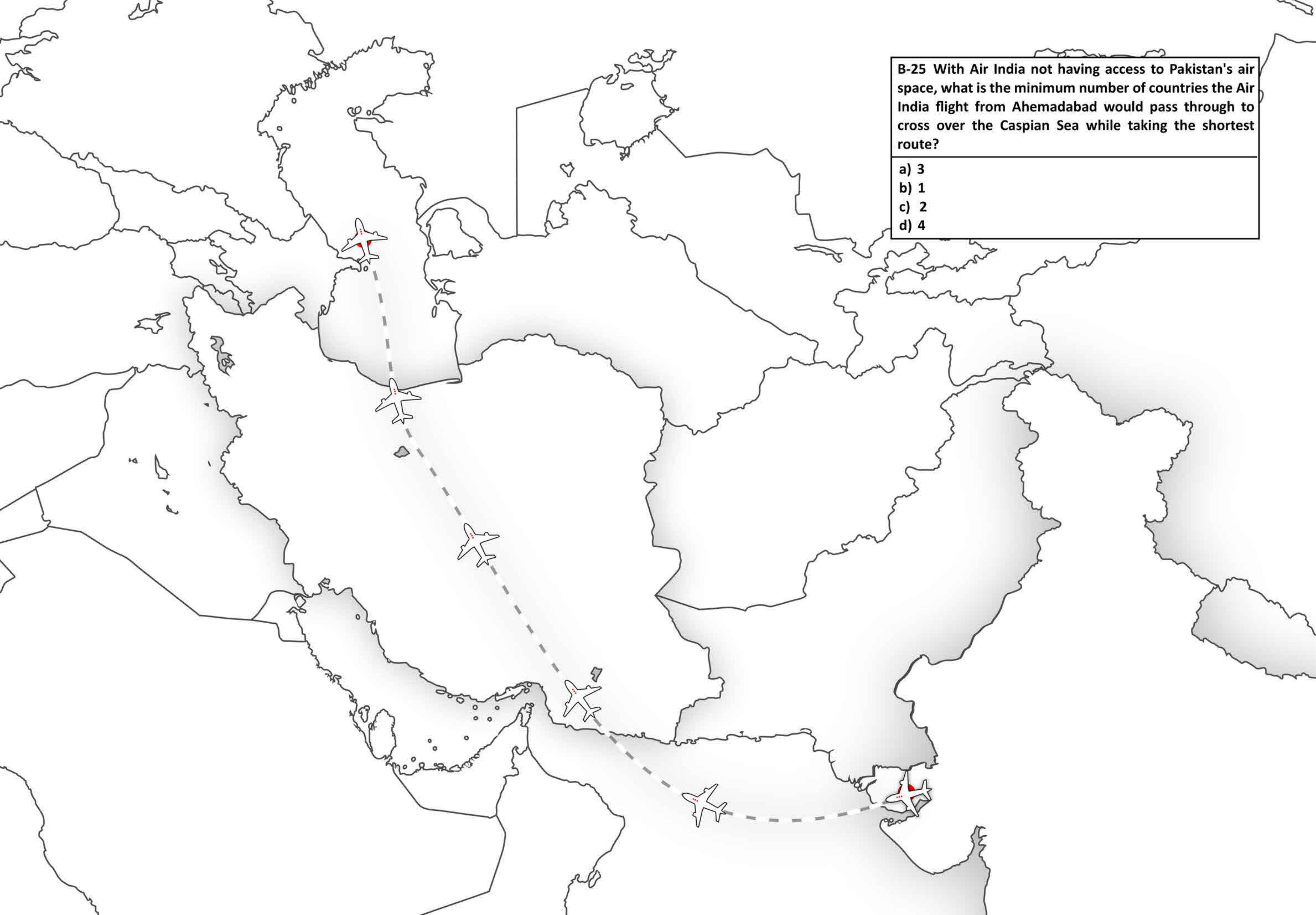
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-24 Consider the following statements regarding the Caspian Sea:

1. Russia is the only country sharing boundaries with both the Caspian Sea and the Black Sea.
2. The Caspian Sea is the largest landlocked sea in the world.

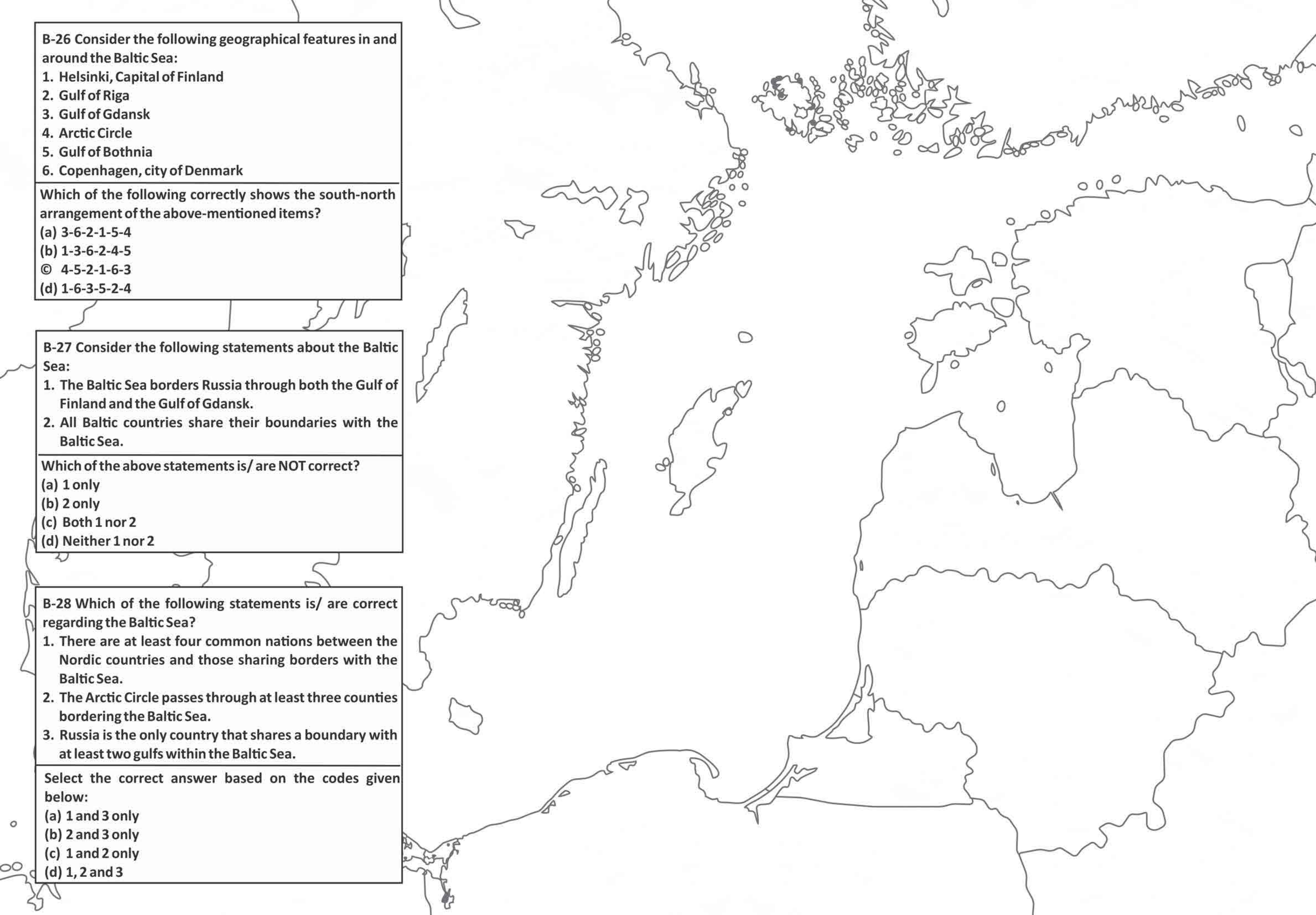
Which of the above statement(s) is/ are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2



B-25 With Air India not having access to Pakistan's air space, what is the minimum number of countries the Air India flight from Ahemadabad would pass through to cross over the Caspian Sea while taking the shortest route?

a) 3
b) 1
c) 2
d) 4



B-26 Consider the following geographical features in and around the Baltic Sea:

1. **Helsinki, Capital of Finland**
2. **Gulf of Riga**
3. **Gulf of Gdansk**
4. **Arctic Circle**
5. **Gulf of Bothnia**
6. **Copenhagen, city of Denmark**

Which of the following correctly shows the south-north arrangement of the above-mentioned items?

(a) 3-6-2-1-5-4
(b) 1-3-6-2-4-5
© 4-5-2-1-6-3
(d) 1-6-3-5-2-4

B-27 Consider the following statements about the Baltic Sea:

1. **The Baltic Sea borders Russia through both the Gulf of Finland and the Gulf of Gdansk.**
2. **All Baltic countries share their boundaries with the Baltic Sea.**

Which of the above statements is/ are NOT correct?

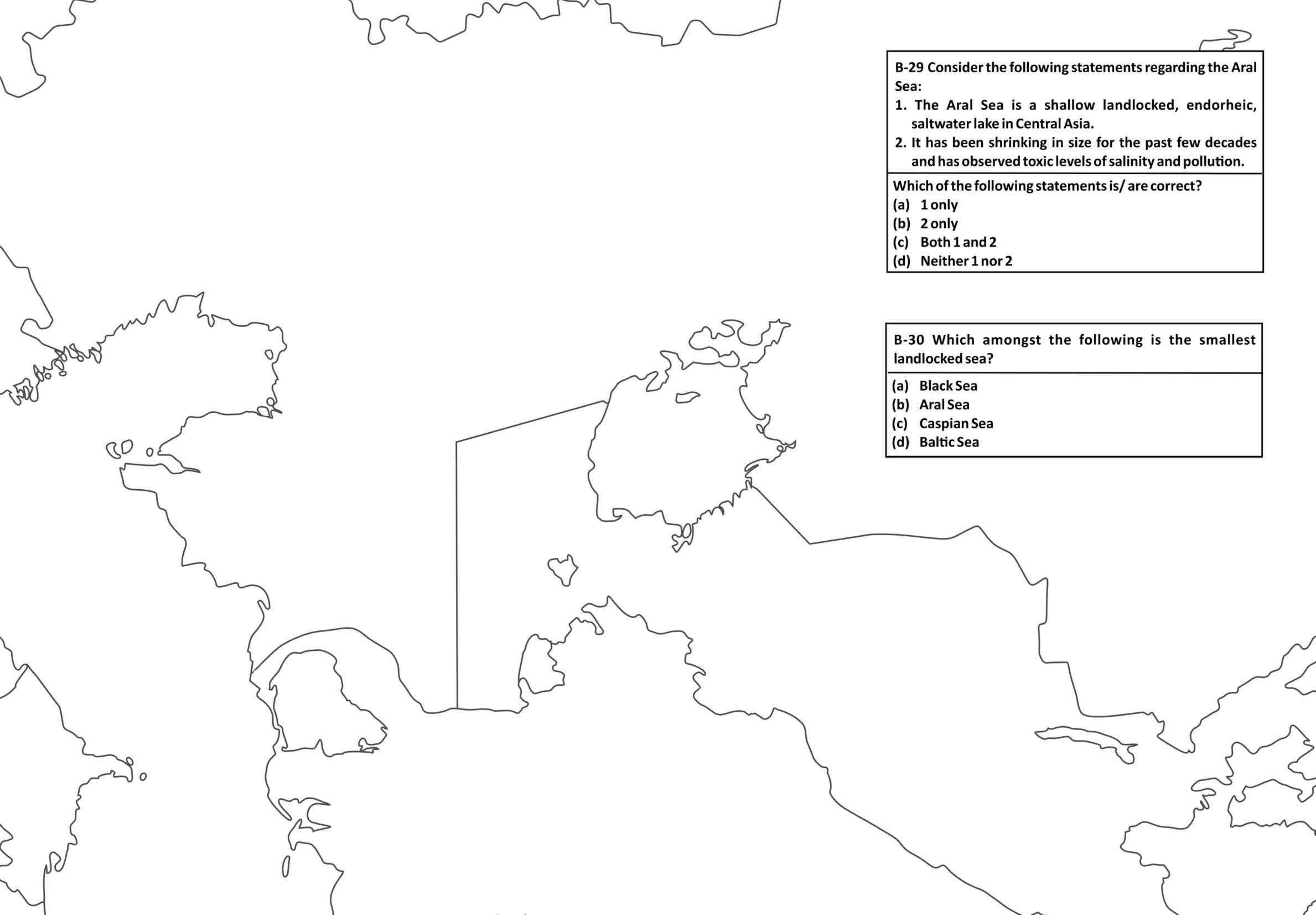
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 nor 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-28 Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding the Baltic Sea?

1. **There are at least four common nations between the Nordic countries and those sharing borders with the Baltic Sea.**
2. **The Arctic Circle passes through at least three counties bordering the Baltic Sea.**
3. **Russia is the only country that shares a boundary with at least two gulfs within the Baltic Sea.**

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3



B-29 Consider the following statements regarding the Aral Sea:

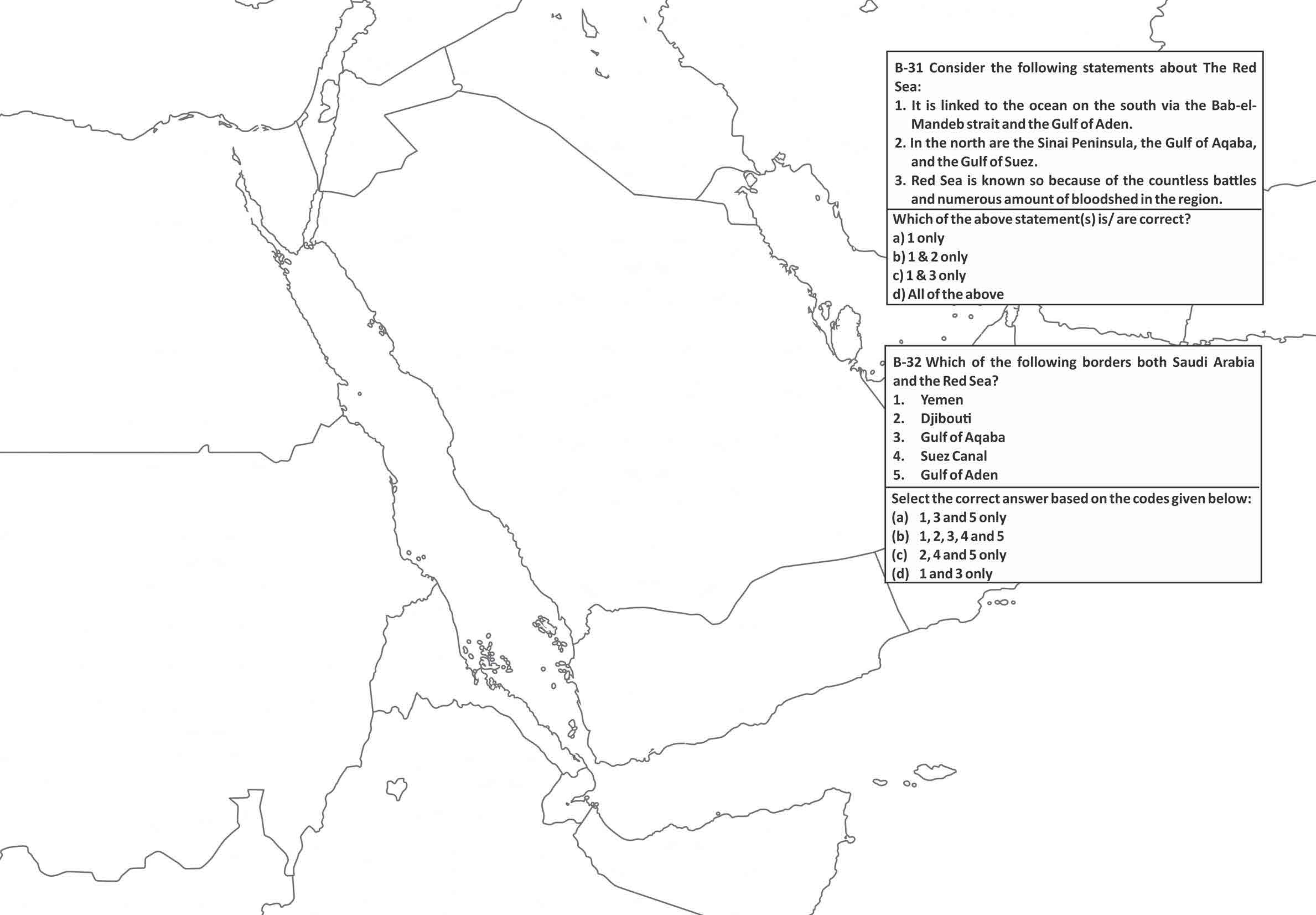
1. The Aral Sea is a shallow landlocked, endorheic, saltwater lake in Central Asia.
2. It has been shrinking in size for the past few decades and has observed toxic levels of salinity and pollution.

Which of the following statements is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-30 Which amongst the following is the smallest landlocked sea?

(a) Black Sea
(b) Aral Sea
(c) Caspian Sea
(d) Baltic Sea



B-31 Consider the following statements about The Red Sea:

1. It is linked to the ocean on the south via the Bab-el-Mandeb strait and the Gulf of Aden.
2. In the north are the Sinai Peninsula, the Gulf of Aqaba, and the Gulf of Suez.
3. Red Sea is known so because of the countless battles and numerous amount of bloodshed in the region.

Which of the above statement(s) is/ are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 1 & 2 only
c) 1 & 3 only
d) All of the above

B-32 Which of the following borders both Saudi Arabia and the Red Sea?

1. Yemen
2. Djibouti
3. Gulf of Aqaba
4. Suez Canal
5. Gulf of Aden

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

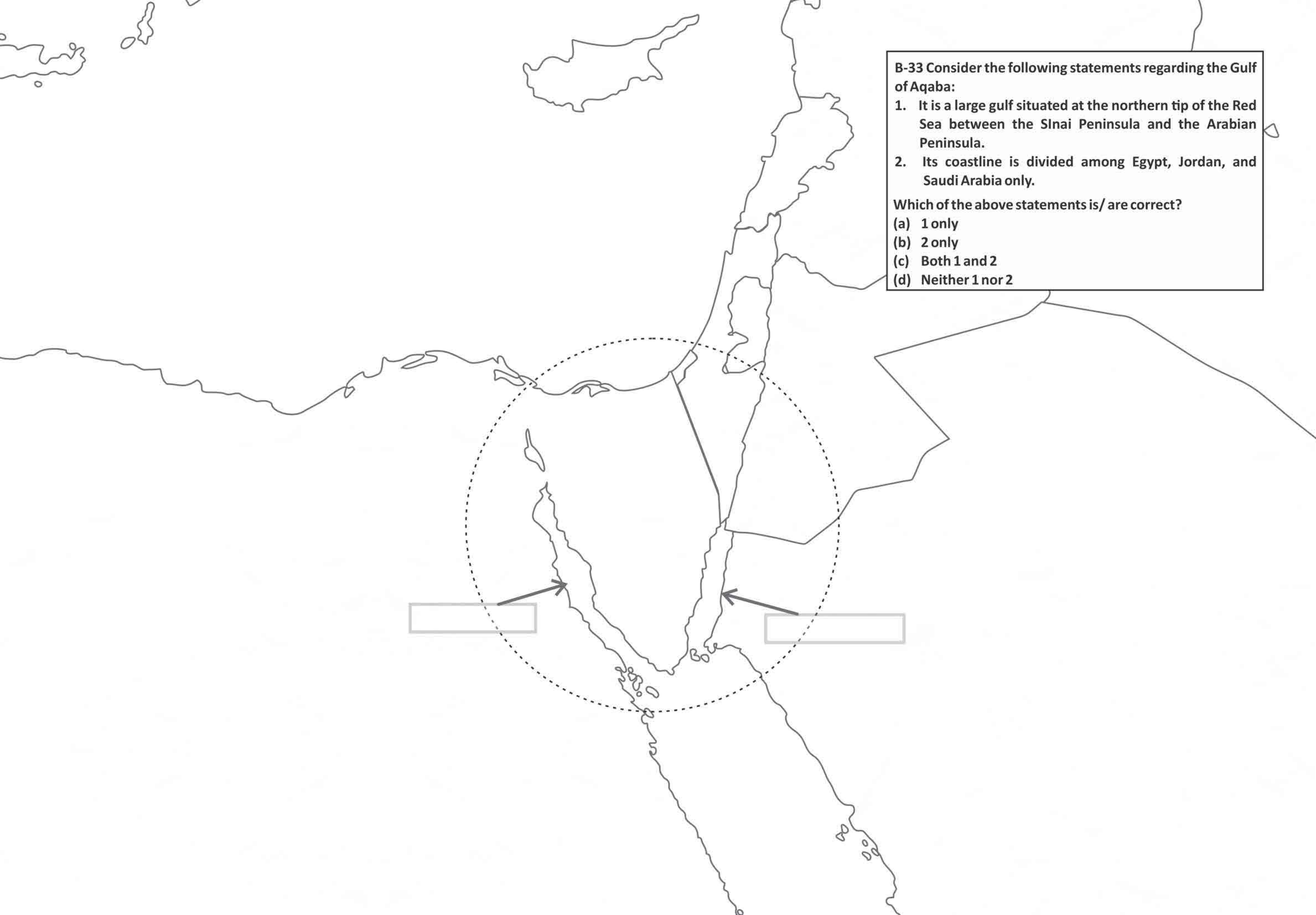
(a) 1, 3 and 5 only
(b) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
(c) 2, 4 and 5 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

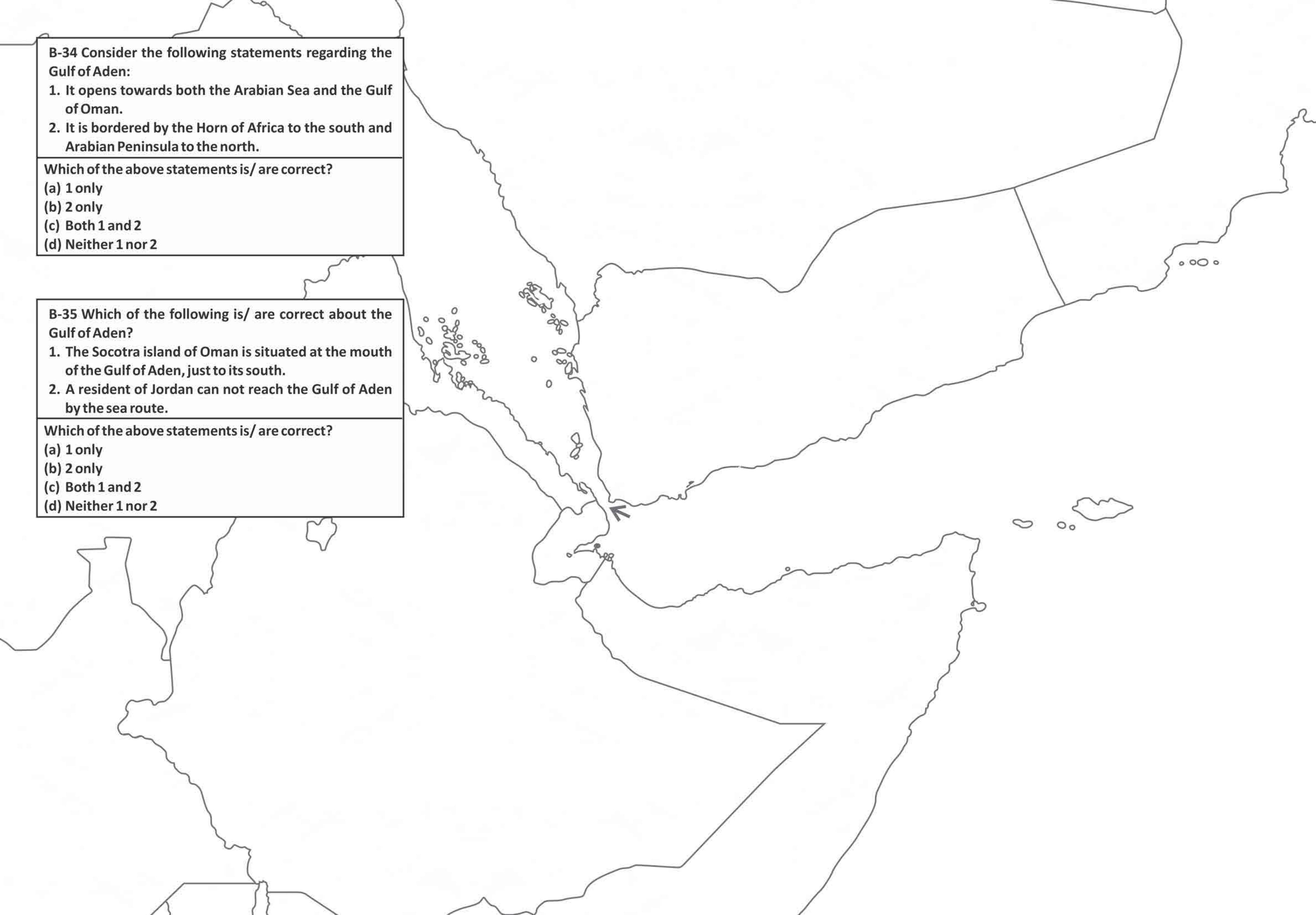
B-33 Consider the following statements regarding the Gulf of Aqaba:

1. It is a large gulf situated at the northern tip of the Red Sea between the SInai Peninsula and the Arabian Peninsula.
2. Its coastline is divided among Egypt, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia only.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2





B-34 Consider the following statements regarding the Gulf of Aden:

1. It opens towards both the Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Oman.
2. It is bordered by the Horn of Africa to the south and Arabian Peninsula to the north.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

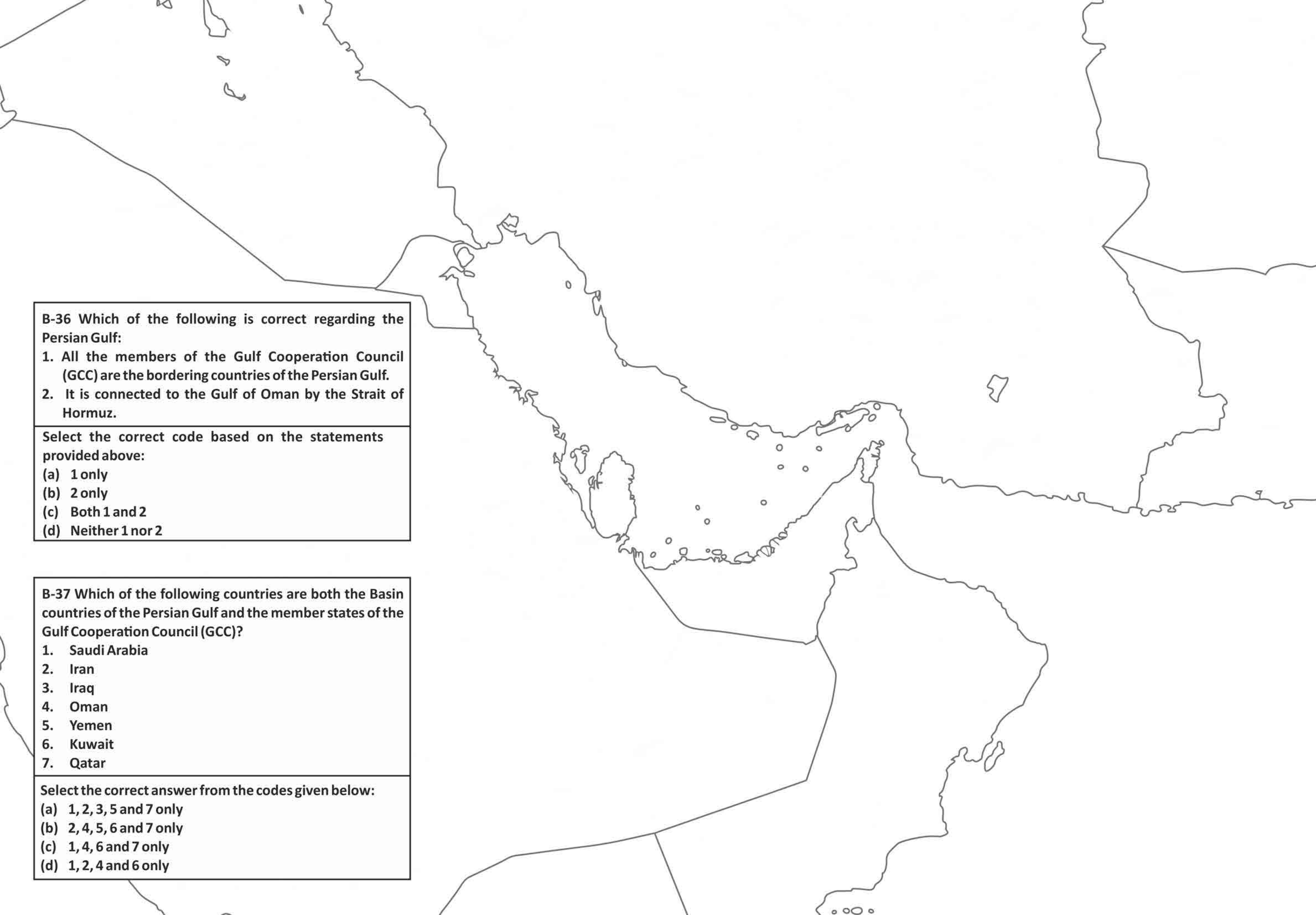
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-35 Which of the following is/ are correct about the Gulf of Aden?

1. The Socotra island of Oman is situated at the mouth of the Gulf of Aden, just to its south.
2. A resident of Jordan can not reach the Gulf of Aden by the sea route.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2



B-36 Which of the following is correct regarding the Persian Gulf:

1. All the members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) are the bordering countries of the Persian Gulf.
2. It is connected to the Gulf of Oman by the Strait of Hormuz.

Select the correct code based on the statements provided above:

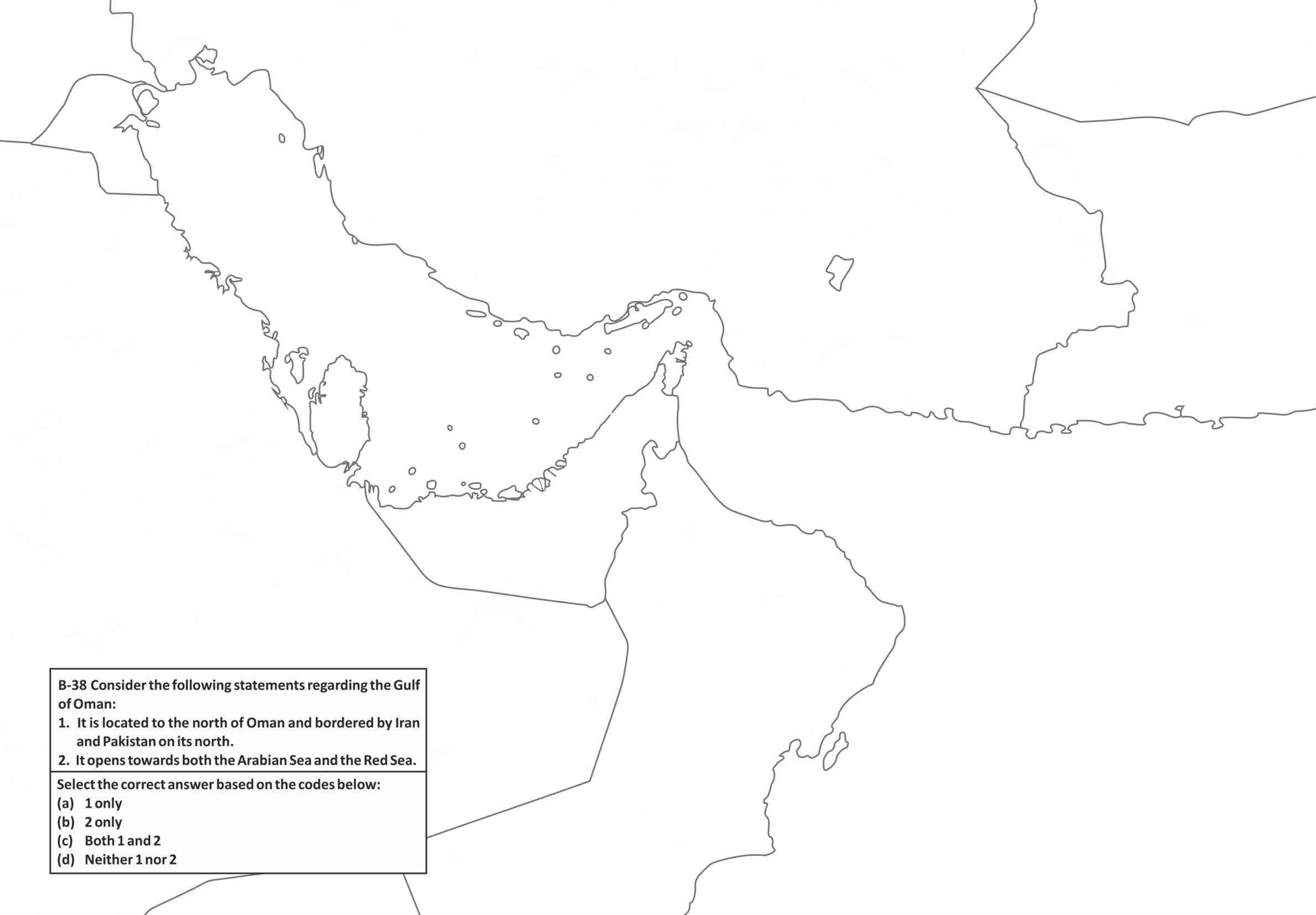
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-37 Which of the following countries are both the Basin countries of the Persian Gulf and the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)?

1. Saudi Arabia
2. Iran
3. Iraq
4. Oman
5. Yemen
6. Kuwait
7. Qatar

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

(a) 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7 only
(b) 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7 only
(c) 1, 4, 6 and 7 only
(d) 1, 2, 4 and 6 only

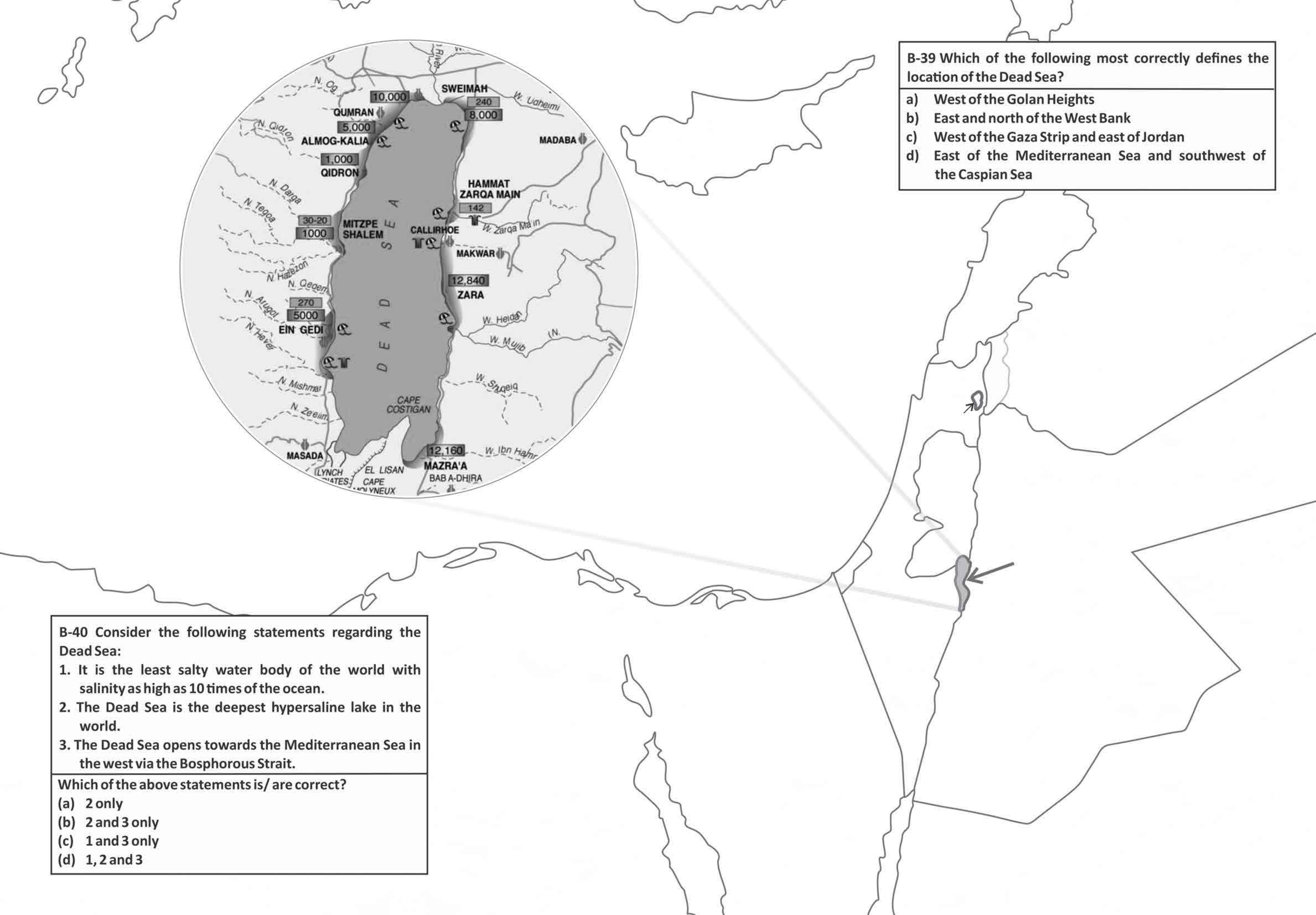


B-38 Consider the following statements regarding the Gulf of Oman:

1. It is located to the north of Oman and bordered by Iran and Pakistan on its north.
2. It opens towards both the Arabian Sea and the Red Sea.

Select the correct answer based on the codes below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2


N. Og
10,000
SWEIMAH
240
8,000
W. Uaheimi
QUMRAN
5,000
N. Qidron
ALMOG-KALIA
MADABA
1,000
QIDRON
HAMMAT
ZARQA MAIN
N. Darga
N. Teqoa
142
30-20
1000
MITZPE
SHALEM
CALLIRHOE
W. Zarqa Ma'in
MAKWAR
DEAD SEA
N. Hazezon
N. Qeqem
12,840
ZARA
N. Arugot
270
5000
EIN GEDI
W. Heidan
N. Hever
W. Mujib
N. Mishmar
W. Shuqeiq
N. Ze'eim
CAPE
COSTIGAN
MASADA
12,160
W. Ibn Hamr
LYNCH
STRAITES
EL LISAN
CAPE
MOLYNEUX
MAZRA'A
BAB A-DHIRA

B-39 Which of the following most correctly defines the location of the Dead Sea?

- **a) West of the Golan Heights**
- **b) East and north of the West Bank**
- **c) West of the Gaza Strip and east of Jordan**
- **d) East of the Mediterranean Sea and southwest of the Caspian Sea**

B-40 Consider the following statements regarding the Dead Sea:

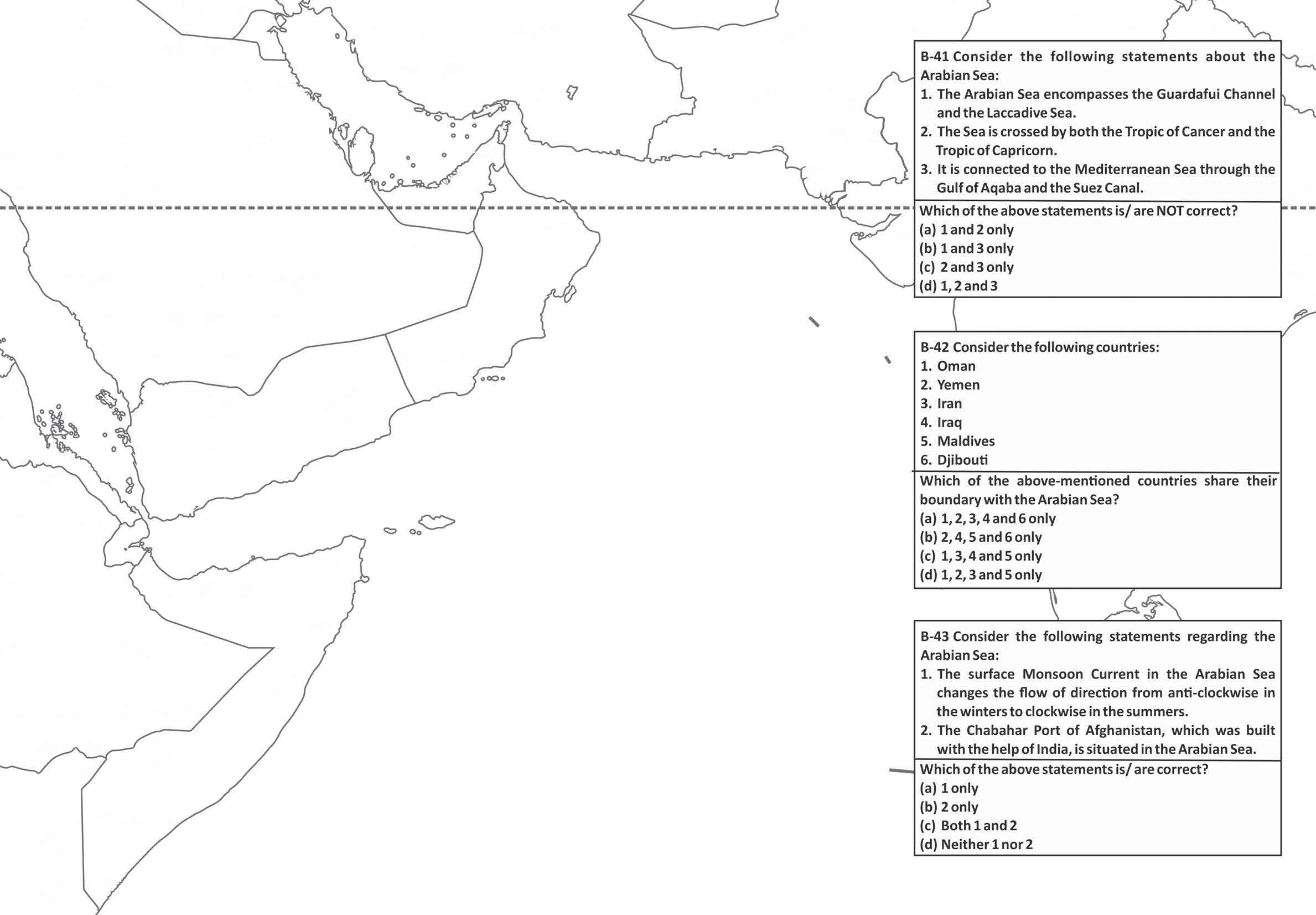
1. It is the least salty water body of the world with salinity as high as 10 times of the ocean.

2. The Dead Sea is the deepest hypersaline lake in the world.

3. The Dead Sea opens towards the Mediterranean Sea in the west via the Bosphorous Strait.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

- **(a) 2 only**
- **(b) 2 and 3 only**
- **(c) 1 and 3 only**
- **(d) 1, 2 and 3**



B-41 Consider the following statements about the Arabian Sea:

1. The Arabian Sea encompasses the Guardafui Channel and the Laccadive Sea.
2. The Sea is crossed by both the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.
3. It is connected to the Mediterranean Sea through the Gulf of Aqaba and the Suez Canal.

Which of the above statements is/ are NOT correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

B-42 Consider the following countries:

1. Oman
2. Yemen
3. Iran
4. Iraq
5. Maldives
6. Djibouti

Which of the above-mentioned countries share their boundary with the Arabian Sea?

(a) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 only
(b) 2, 4, 5 and 6 only
(c) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only

B-43 Consider the following statements regarding the Arabian Sea:

1. The surface Monsoon Current in the Arabian Sea changes the flow of direction from anti-clockwise in the winters to clockwise in the summers.
2. The Chabahar Port of Afghanistan, which was built with the help of India, is situated in the Arabian Sea.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-44 Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding the Bay of Bengal?

1. Only four states and two Union Territories of India share their coastline with the Bay of Bengal.
2. It witnesses the reversal of direction of the surface water currents with the change in seasons.
3. The tropical cyclones occur more frequently in the Arabian Sea than in the Bay of Bengal.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

B-45 Which of the following pair share the largest and the smallest coastline respectively with the Bay of Bengal?

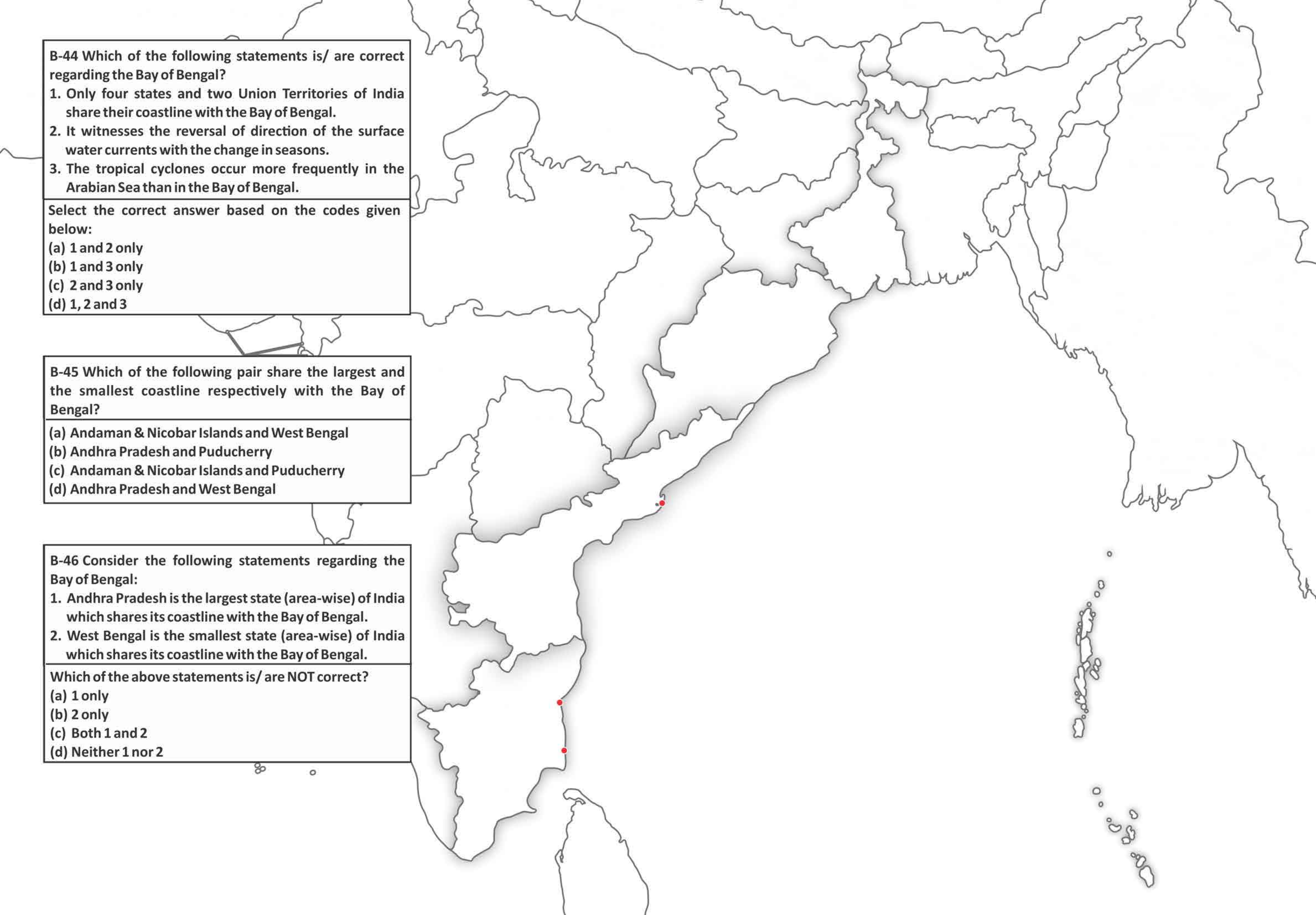
(a) Andaman & Nicobar Islands and West Bengal
(b) Andhra Pradesh and Puducherry
(c) Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry
(d) Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal

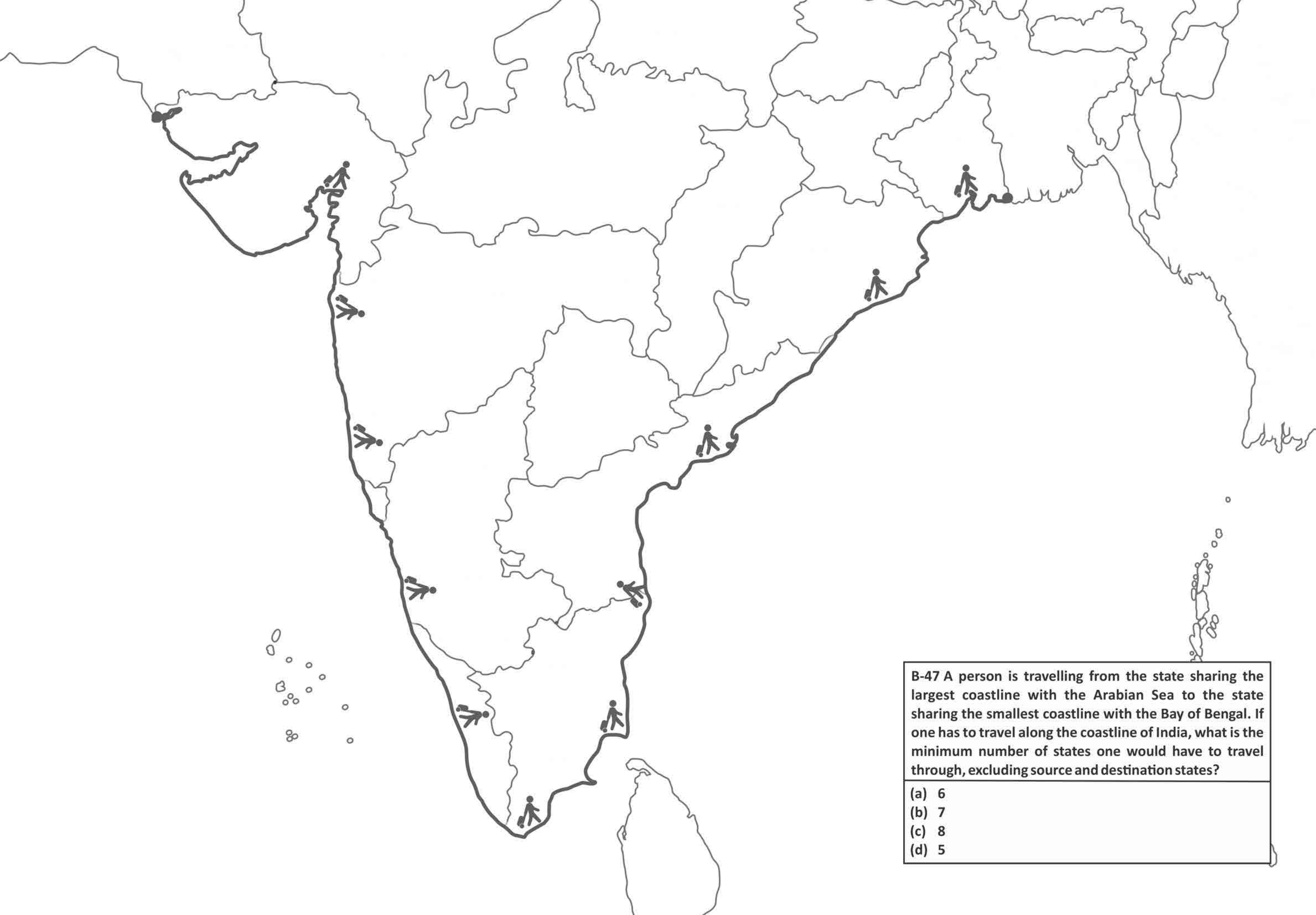
B-46 Consider the following statements regarding the Bay of Bengal:

1. Andhra Pradesh is the largest state (area-wise) of India which shares its coastline with the Bay of Bengal.
2. West Bengal is the smallest state (area-wise) of India which shares its coastline with the Bay of Bengal.

Which of the above statements is/ are NOT correct?

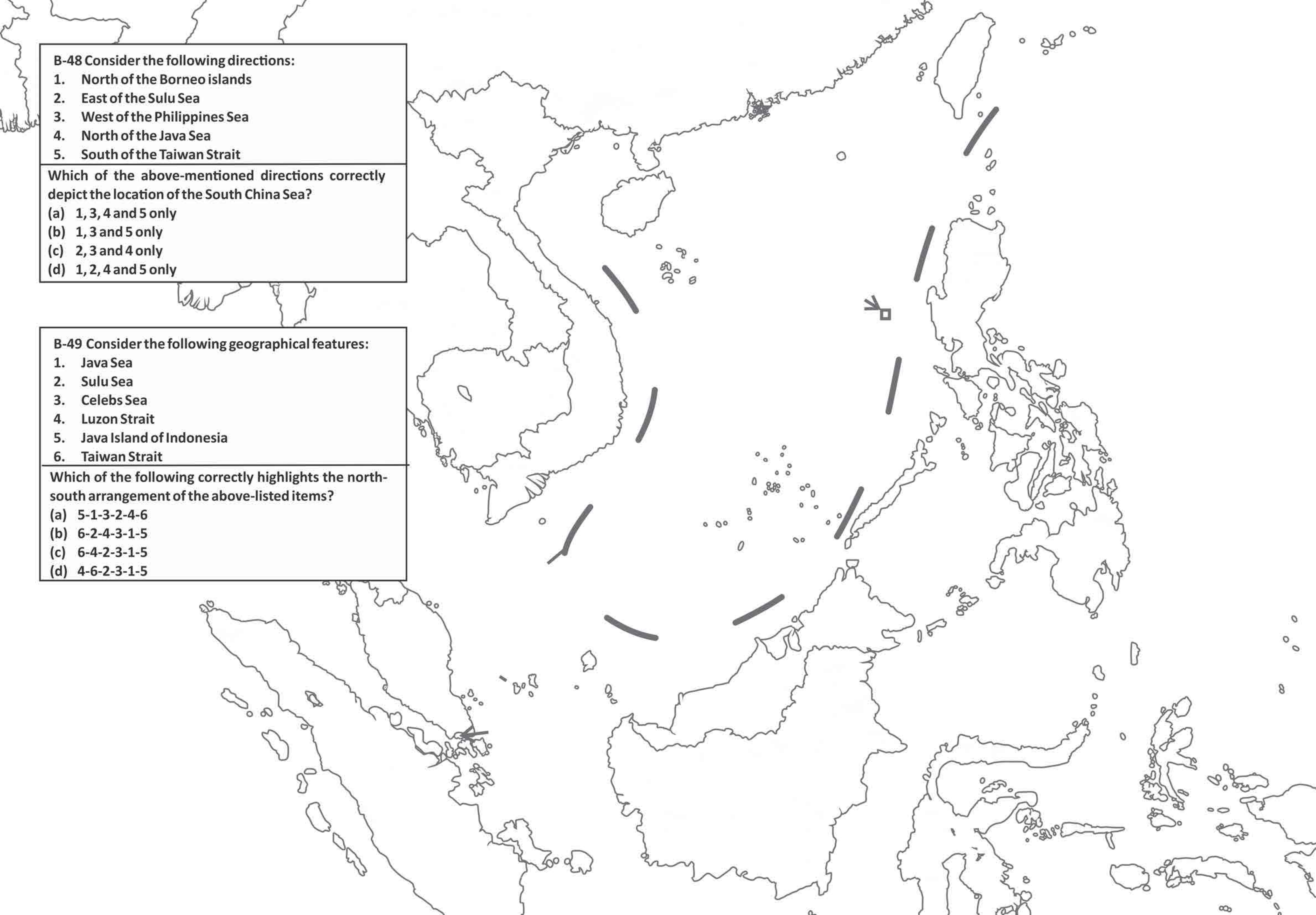
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2





B-47 A person is travelling from the state sharing the largest coastline with the Arabian Sea to the state sharing the smallest coastline with the Bay of Bengal. If one has to travel along the coastline of India, what is the minimum number of states one would have to travel through, excluding source and destination states?

(a) 6
(b) 7
(c) 8
(d) 5



B-48 Consider the following directions:

1. **North of the Borneo islands**
2. **East of the Sulu Sea**
3. **West of the Philippines Sea**
4. **North of the Java Sea**
5. **South of the Taiwan Strait**

Which of the above-mentioned directions correctly depict the location of the South China Sea?

(a) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
(b) 1, 3 and 5 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only

B-49 Consider the following geographical features:

1. **Java Sea**
2. **Sulu Sea**
3. **Celebs Sea**
4. **Luzon Strait**
5. **Java Island of Indonesia**
6. **Taiwan Strait**

Which of the following correctly highlights the north-south arrangement of the above-listed items?

(a) 5-1-3-2-4-6
(b) 6-2-4-3-1-5
(c) 6-4-2-3-1-5
(d) 4-6-2-3-1-5

B-50 Consider the following islands:

1. Scarborough Shoal
2. Paracel Islands
3. Macclesfield Bank

Which of the following correctly shows the east-to-west arrangement of the above islands?

(a) 2-3-1
(b) 1-3-2
(c) 1-2-3
(d) 3-2-1

B-51 Which of the following countries share their borders with the South China Sea?

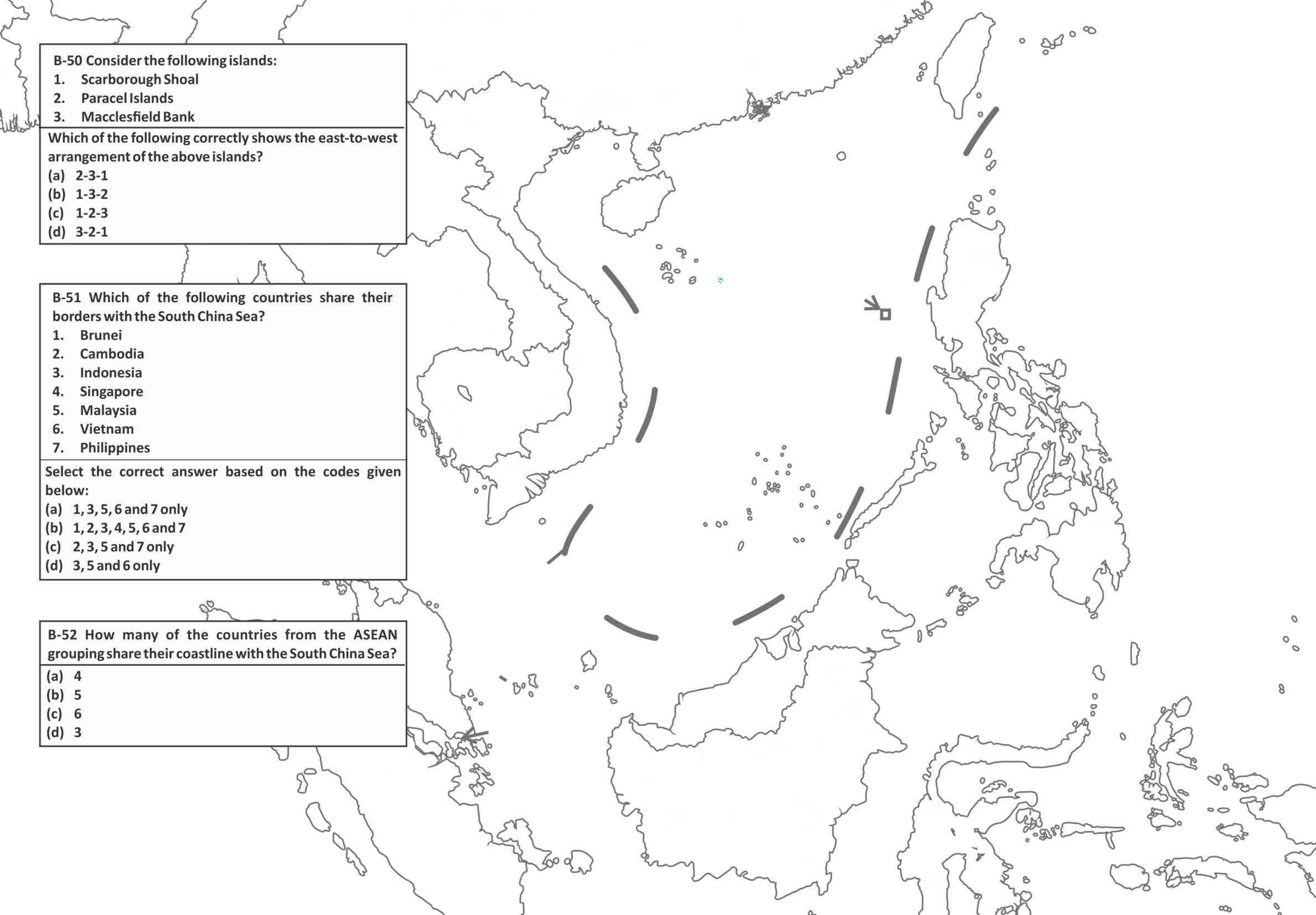
1. Brunei
2. Cambodia
3. Indonesia
4. Singapore
5. Malaysia
6. Vietnam
7. Philippines

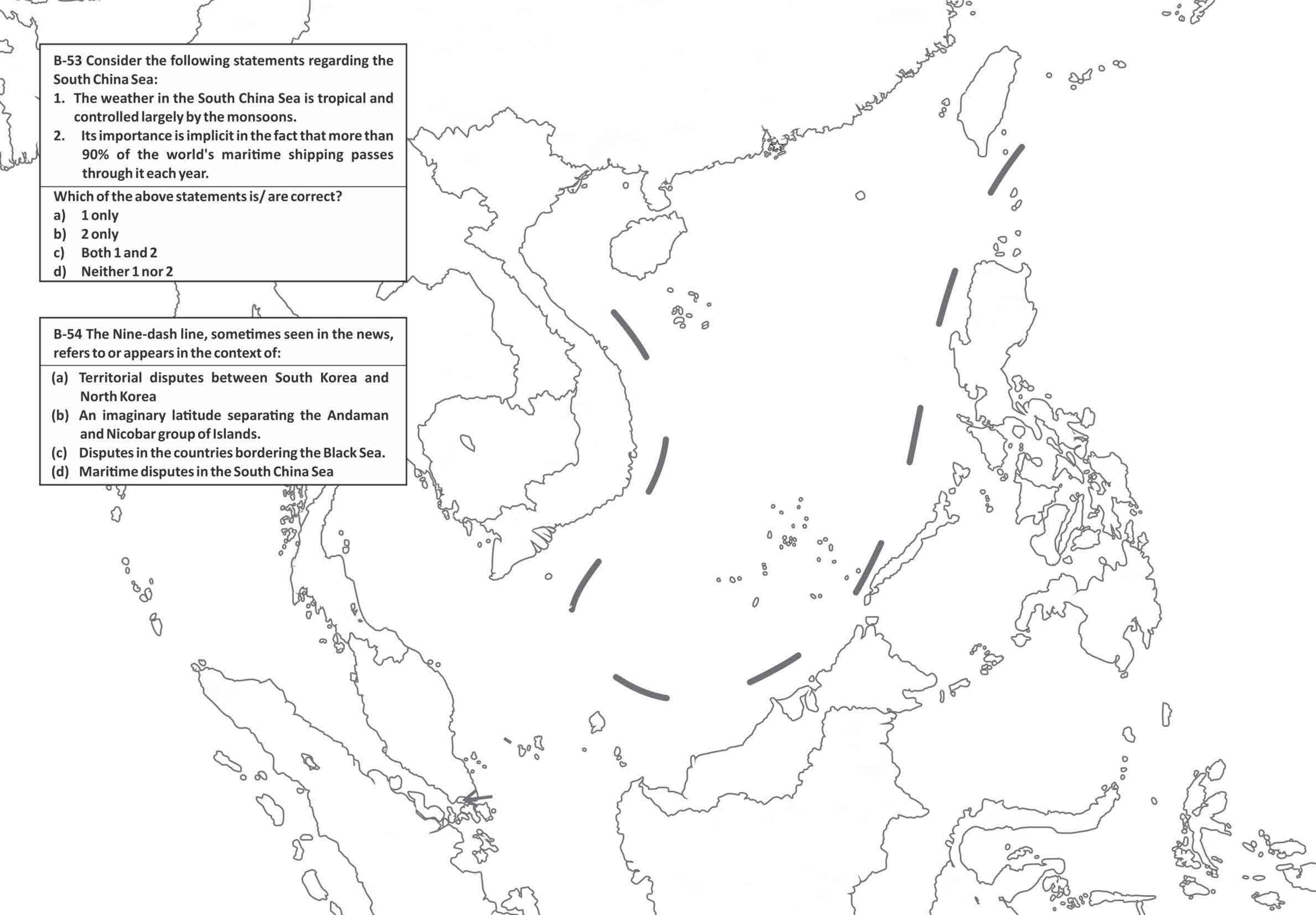
Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1, 3, 5, 6 and 7 only
(b) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7
(c) 2, 3, 5 and 7 only
(d) 3, 5 and 6 only

B-52 How many of the countries from the ASEAN grouping share their coastline with the South China Sea?

(a) 4
(b) 5
(c) 6
(d) 3





B-53 Consider the following statements regarding the South China Sea:

1. **The weather in the South China Sea is tropical and controlled largely by the monsoons.**
2. **Its importance is implicit in the fact that more than 90% of the world's maritime shipping passes through it each year.**

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

a) **1 only**
b) **2 only**
c) **Both 1 and 2**
d) **Neither 1 nor 2**

B-54 The Nine-dash line, sometimes seen in the news, refers to or appears in the context of:

(a) **Territorial disputes between South Korea and North Korea**
(b) **An imaginary latitude separating the Andaman and Nicobar group of Islands.**
(c) **Disputes in the countries bordering the Black Sea.**
(d) **Maritime disputes in the South China Sea**

B-55 Consider the following directions:

1. **Northwest of the Philippines Sea**
2. **East of the Ryukyu Islands**
3. **North of the South China Sea**
4. **Southwest of the Kyushu Islands of Japan**

Which of the above is/ are correct about the location of the East China Sea?

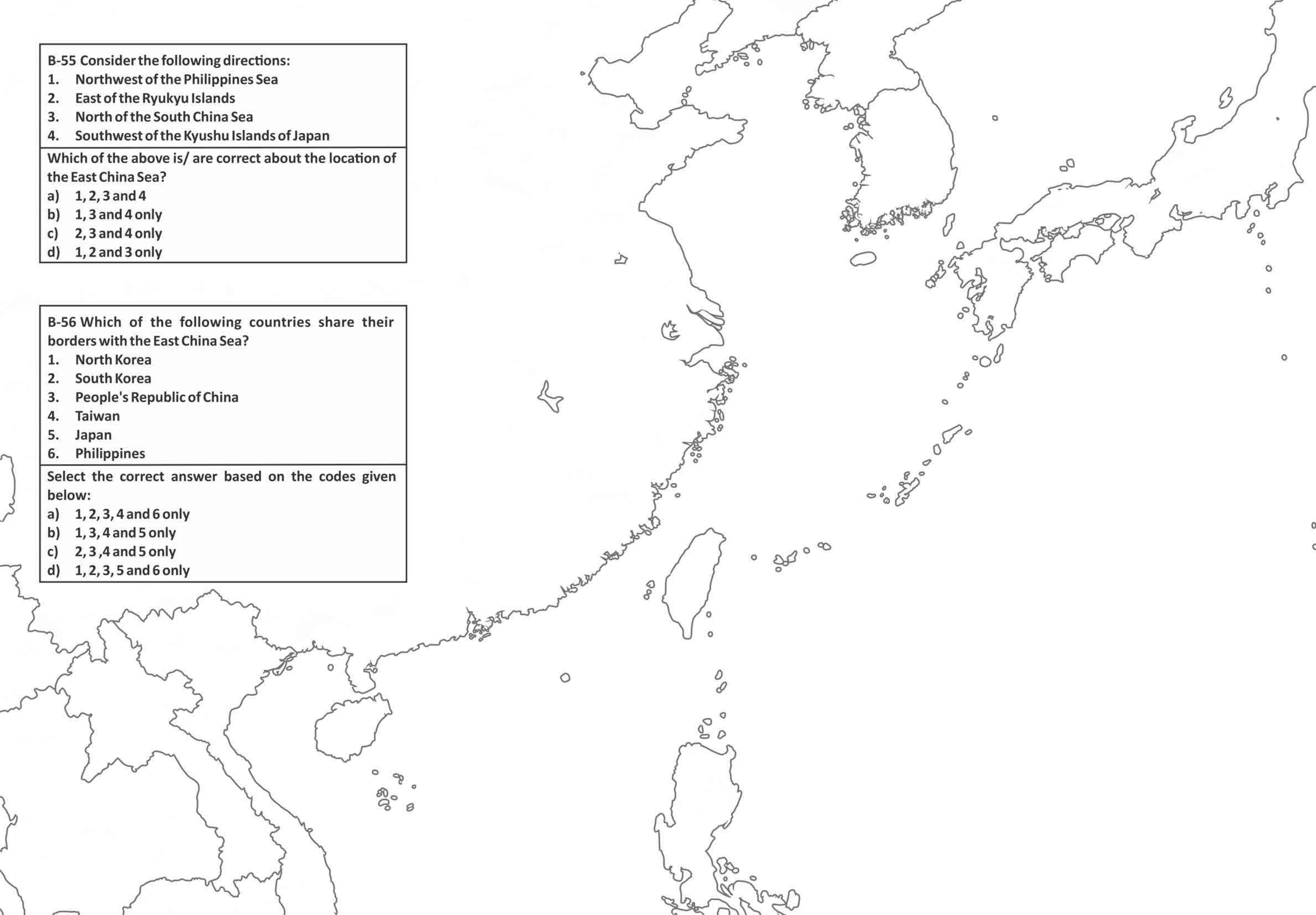
a) **1, 2, 3 and 4**
b) **1, 3 and 4 only**
c) **2, 3 and 4 only**
d) **1, 2 and 3 only**

B-56 Which of the following countries share their borders with the East China Sea?

1. **North Korea**
2. **South Korea**
3. **People's Republic of China**
4. **Taiwan**
5. **Japan**
6. **Philippines**

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

a) **1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 only**
b) **1, 3, 4 and 5 only**
c) **2, 3 ,4 and 5 only**
d) **1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 only**



B-57 Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding the East China Sea?

1. **The Senkaku Islands are found within the. maritime boundaries of the East China Sea.**
2. **The Tropic of Cancer cut across the East China Sea in its southern extremity.**

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

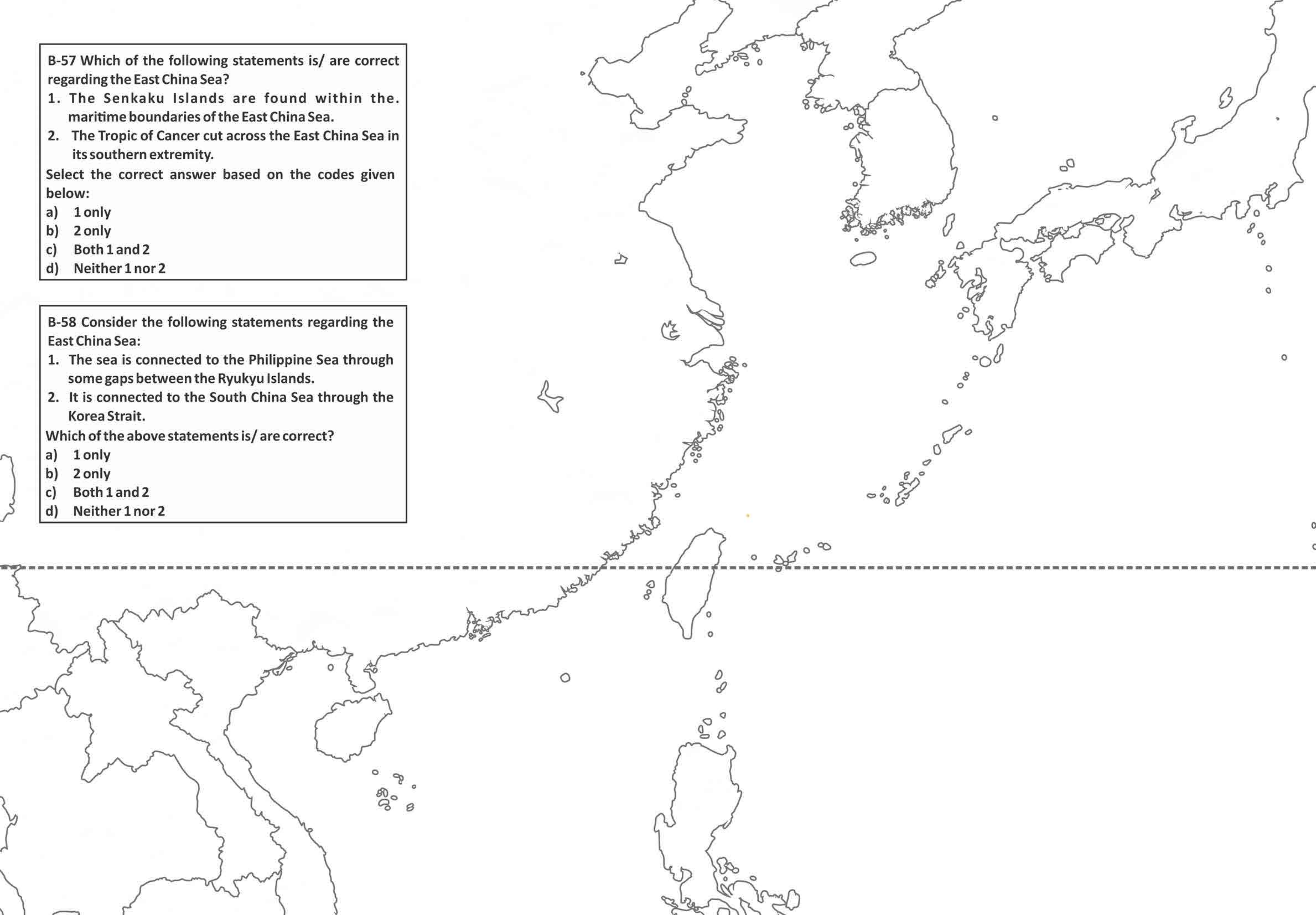
- **a) 1 only**
- **b) 2 only**
- **c) Both 1 and 2**
- **d) Neither 1 nor 2**

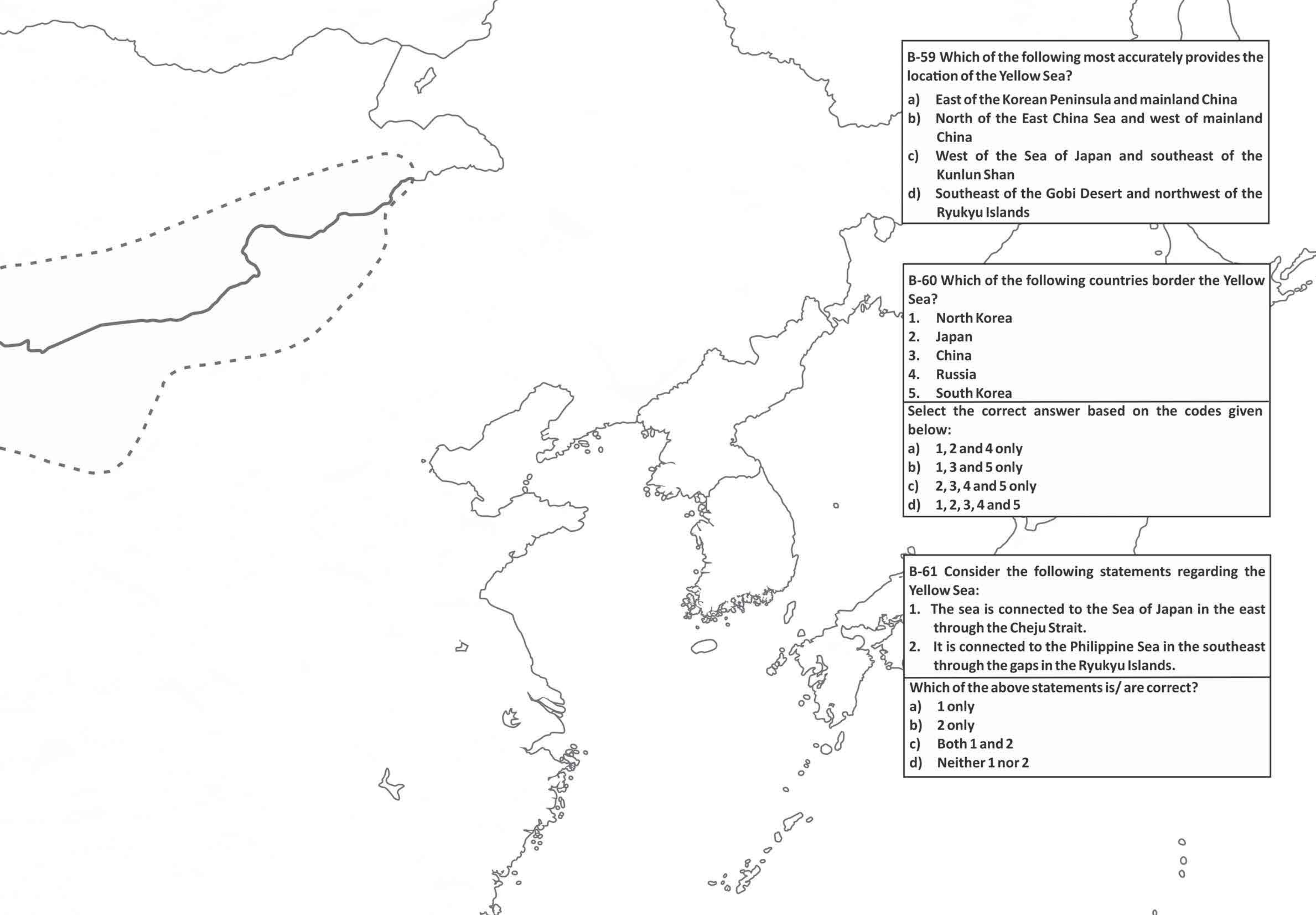
B-58 Consider the following statements regarding the East China Sea:

1. **The sea is connected to the Philippine Sea through some gaps between the Ryukyu Islands.**
2. **It is connected to the South China Sea through the Korea Strait.**

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

- **a) 1 only**
- **b) 2 only**
- **c) Both 1 and 2**
- **d) Neither 1 nor 2**





B-59 Which of the following most accurately provides the location of the Yellow Sea?

- **a) East of the Korean Peninsula and mainland China**
- **b) North of the East China Sea and west of mainland China**
- **c) West of the Sea of Japan and southeast of the Kunlun Shan**
- **d) Southeast of the Gobi Desert and northwest of the Ryukyu Islands**

B-60 Which of the following countries border the Yellow Sea?

1. **North Korea**
2. **Japan**
3. **China**
4. **Russia**
5. **South Korea**

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

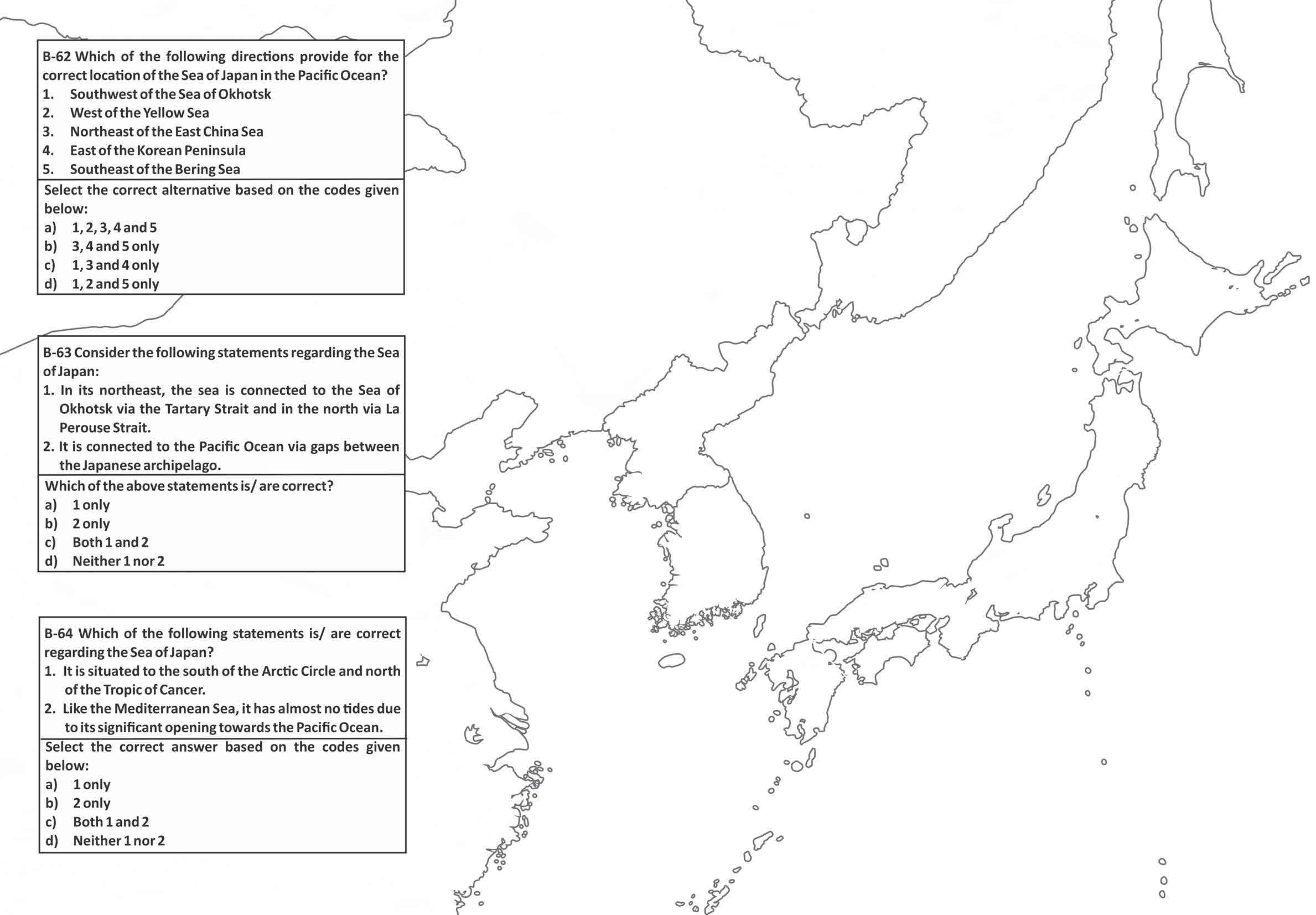
- **a) 1, 2 and 4 only**
- **b) 1, 3 and 5 only**
- **c) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only**
- **d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5**

B-61 Consider the following statements regarding the Yellow Sea:

1. **The sea is connected to the Sea of Japan in the east through the Cheju Strait.**
2. **It is connected to the Philippine Sea in the southeast through the gaps in the Ryukyu Islands.**

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

- **a) 1 only**
- **b) 2 only**
- **c) Both 1 and 2**
- **d) Neither 1 nor 2**



B-62 Which of the following directions provide for the correct location of the Sea of Japan in the Pacific Ocean?

1. Southwest of the Sea of Okhotsk
2. West of the Yellow Sea
3. Northeast of the East China Sea
4. East of the Korean Peninsula
5. Southeast of the Bering Sea

Select the correct alternative based on the codes given below:

a) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
b) 3, 4 and 5 only
c) 1, 3 and 4 only
d) 1, 2 and 5 only

B-63 Consider the following statements regarding the Sea of Japan:

1. In its northeast, the sea is connected to the Sea of Okhotsk via the Tartary Strait and in the north via La Perouse Strait.
2. It is connected to the Pacific Ocean via gaps between the Japanese archipelago.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-64 Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding the Sea of Japan?

1. It is situated to the south of the Arctic Circle and north of the Tropic of Cancer.
2. Like the Mediterranean Sea, it has almost no tides due to its significant opening towards the Pacific Ocean.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

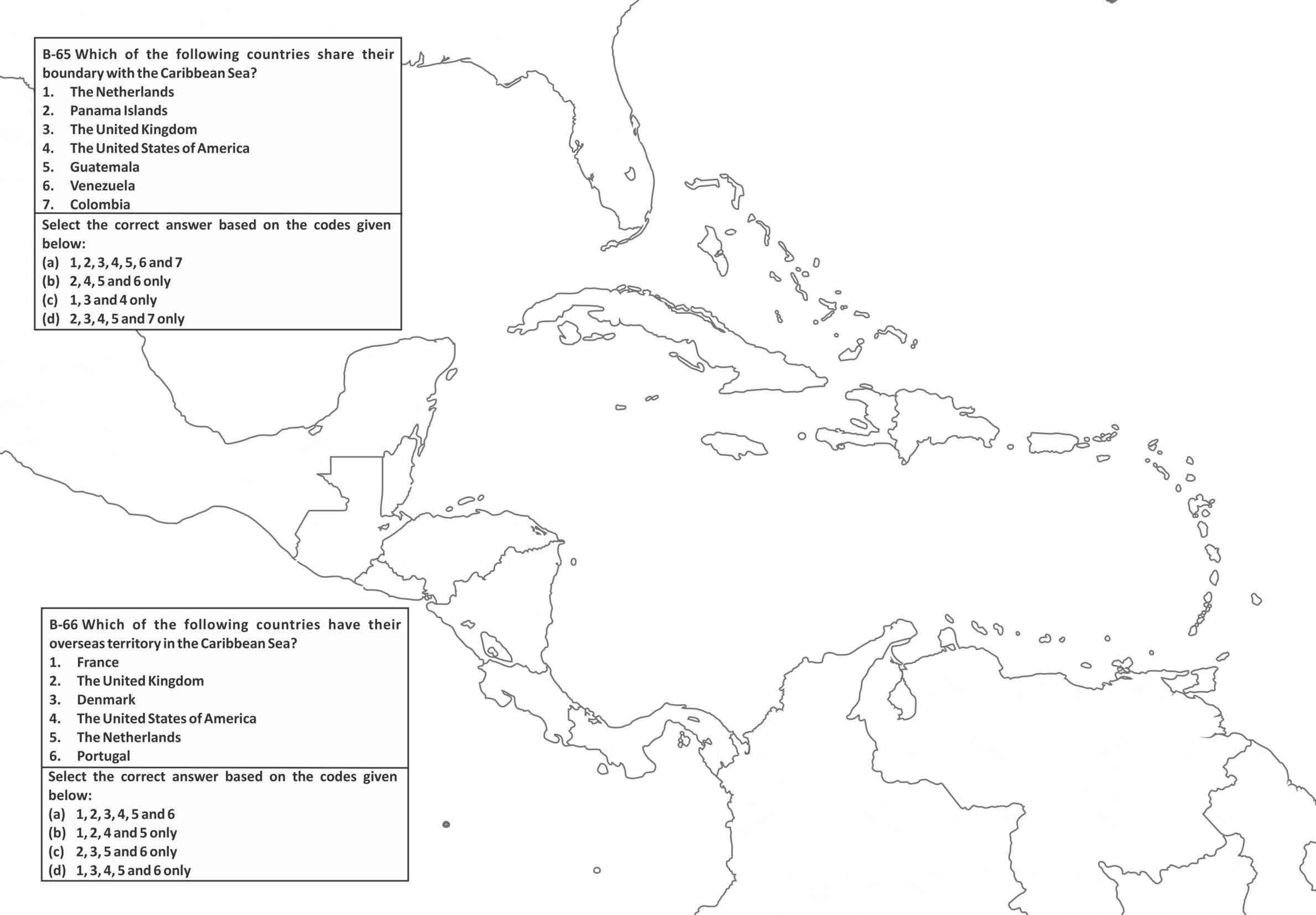
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-65 Which of the following countries share their boundary with the Caribbean Sea?

1. The Netherlands
2. Panama Islands
3. The United Kingdom
4. The United States of America
5. Guatemala
6. Venezuela
7. Colombia

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7
(b) 2, 4, 5 and 6 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 only

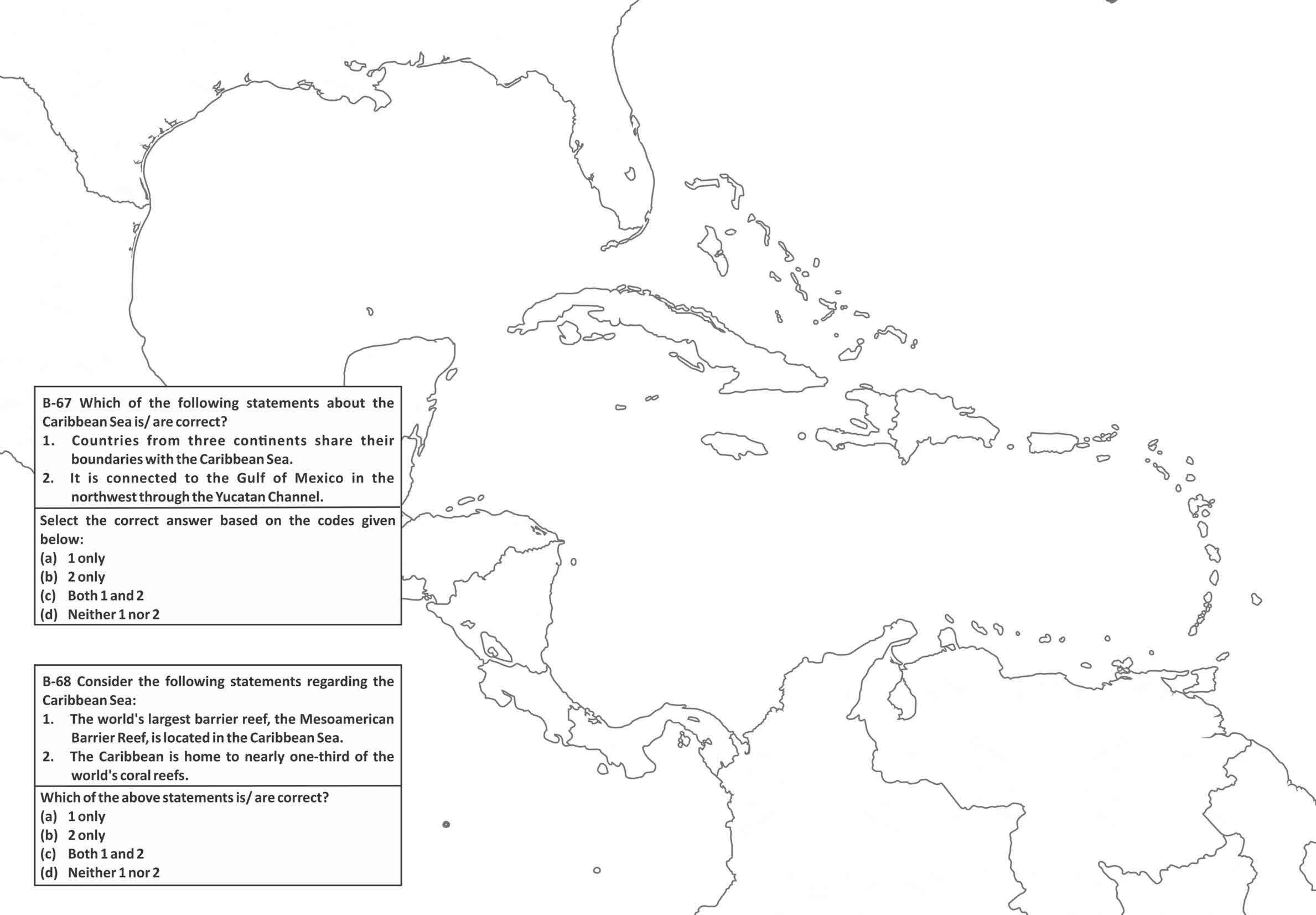


B-66 Which of the following countries have their overseas territory in the Caribbean Sea?

1. France
2. The United Kingdom
3. Denmark
4. The United States of America
5. The Netherlands
6. Portugal

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6
(b) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
(c) 2, 3, 5 and 6 only
(d) 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only



B-67 Which of the following statements about the Caribbean Sea is/ are correct?

1. Countries from three continents share their boundaries with the Caribbean Sea.
2. It is connected to the Gulf of Mexico in the northwest through the Yucatan Channel.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

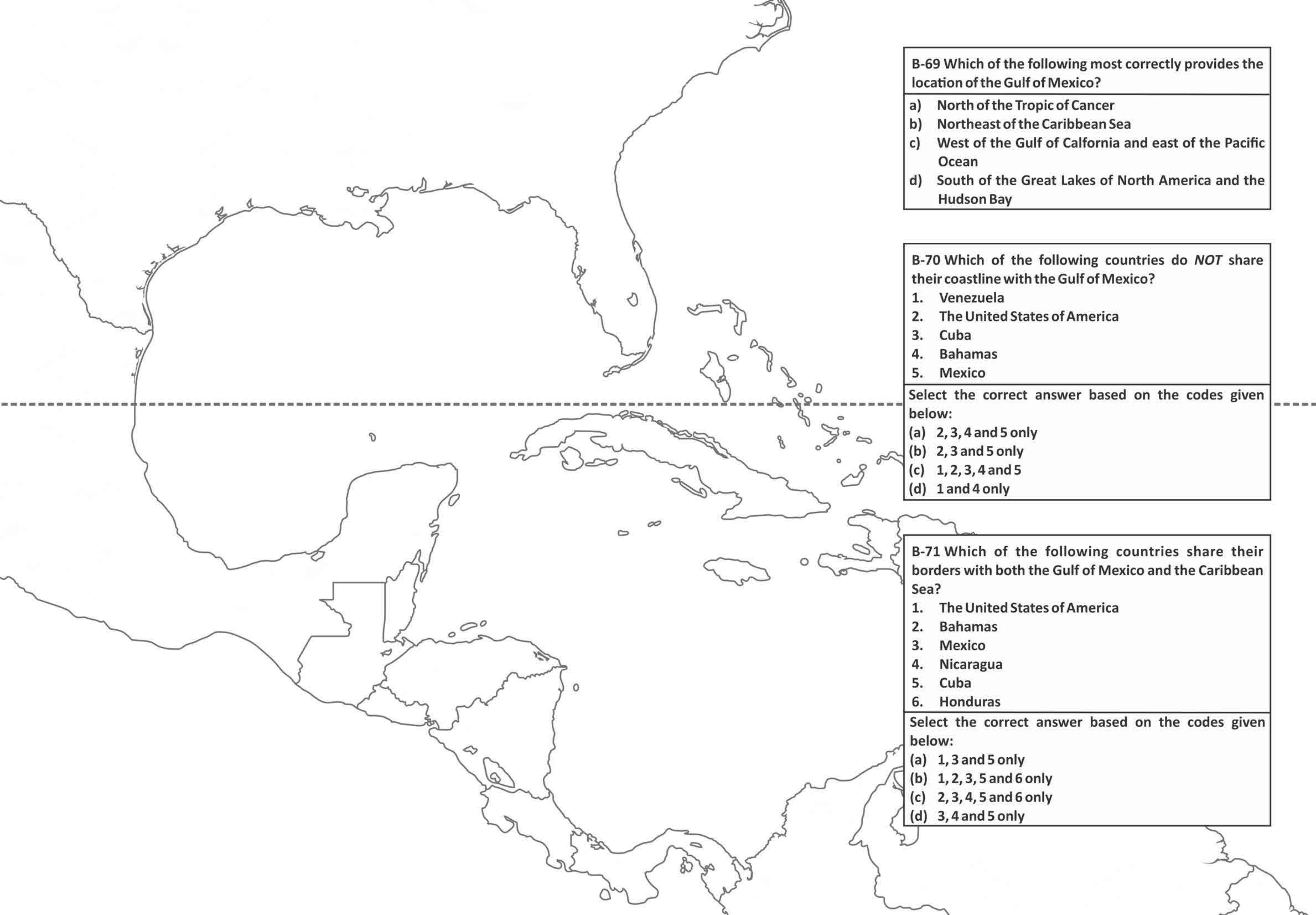
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-68 Consider the following statements regarding the Caribbean Sea:

1. The world's largest barrier reef, the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef, is located in the Caribbean Sea.
2. The Caribbean is home to nearly one-third of the world's coral reefs.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2



B-69 Which of the following most correctly provides the location of the Gulf of Mexico?

a) North of the Tropic of Cancer
b) Northeast of the Caribbean Sea
c) West of the Gulf of Calfornia and east of the Pacific Ocean
d) South of the Great Lakes of North America and the Hudson Bay

B-70 Which of the following countries do *NOT* share their coastline with the Gulf of Mexico?

1. Venezuela
2. The United States of America
3. Cuba
4. Bahamas
5. Mexico

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

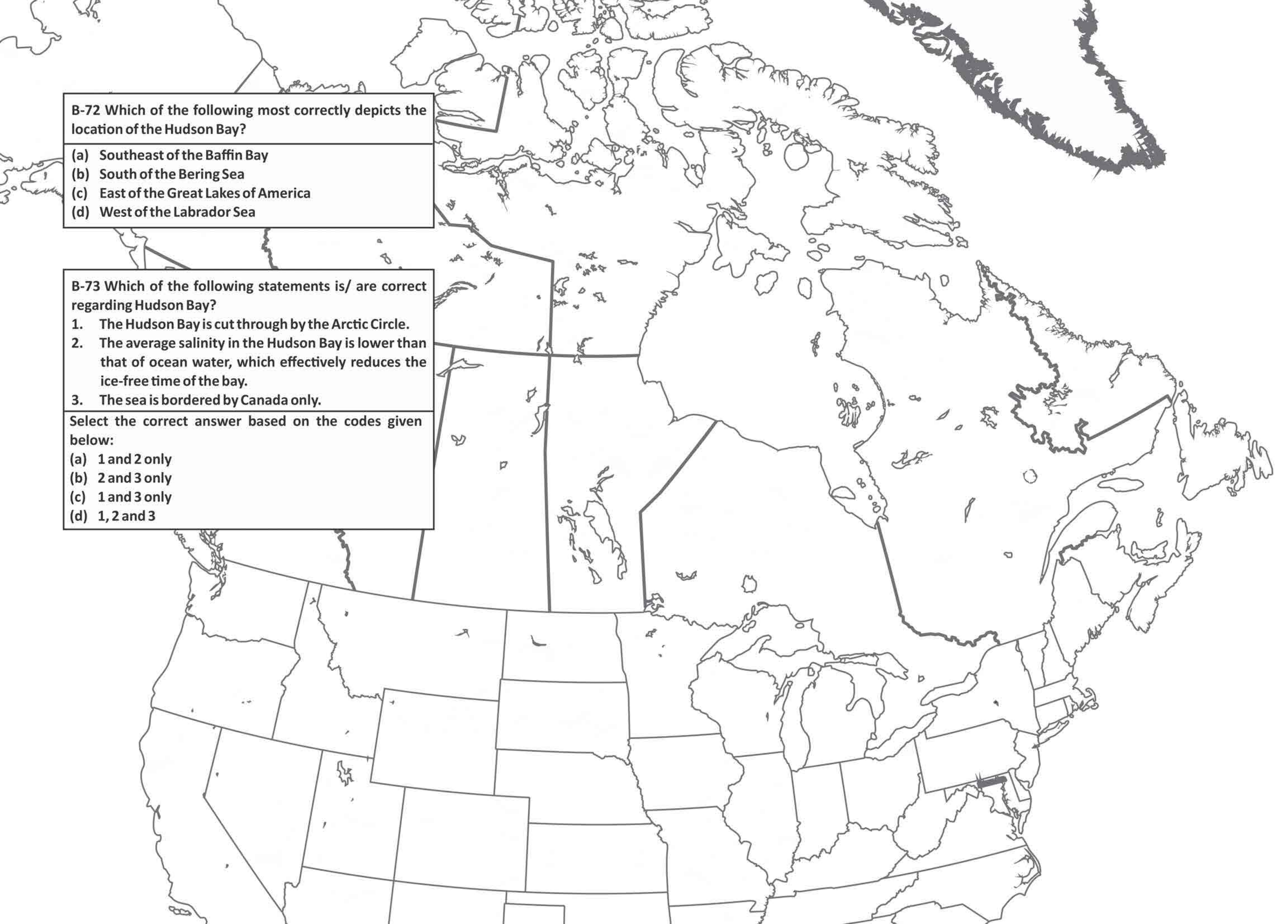
(a) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
(b) 2, 3 and 5 only
(c) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
(d) 1 and 4 only

B-71 Which of the following countries share their borders with both the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea?

1. The United States of America
2. Bahamas
3. Mexico
4. Nicaragua
5. Cuba
6. Honduras

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1, 3 and 5 only
(b) 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 only
(c) 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only
(d) 3, 4 and 5 only



B-72 Which of the following most correctly depicts the location of the Hudson Bay?

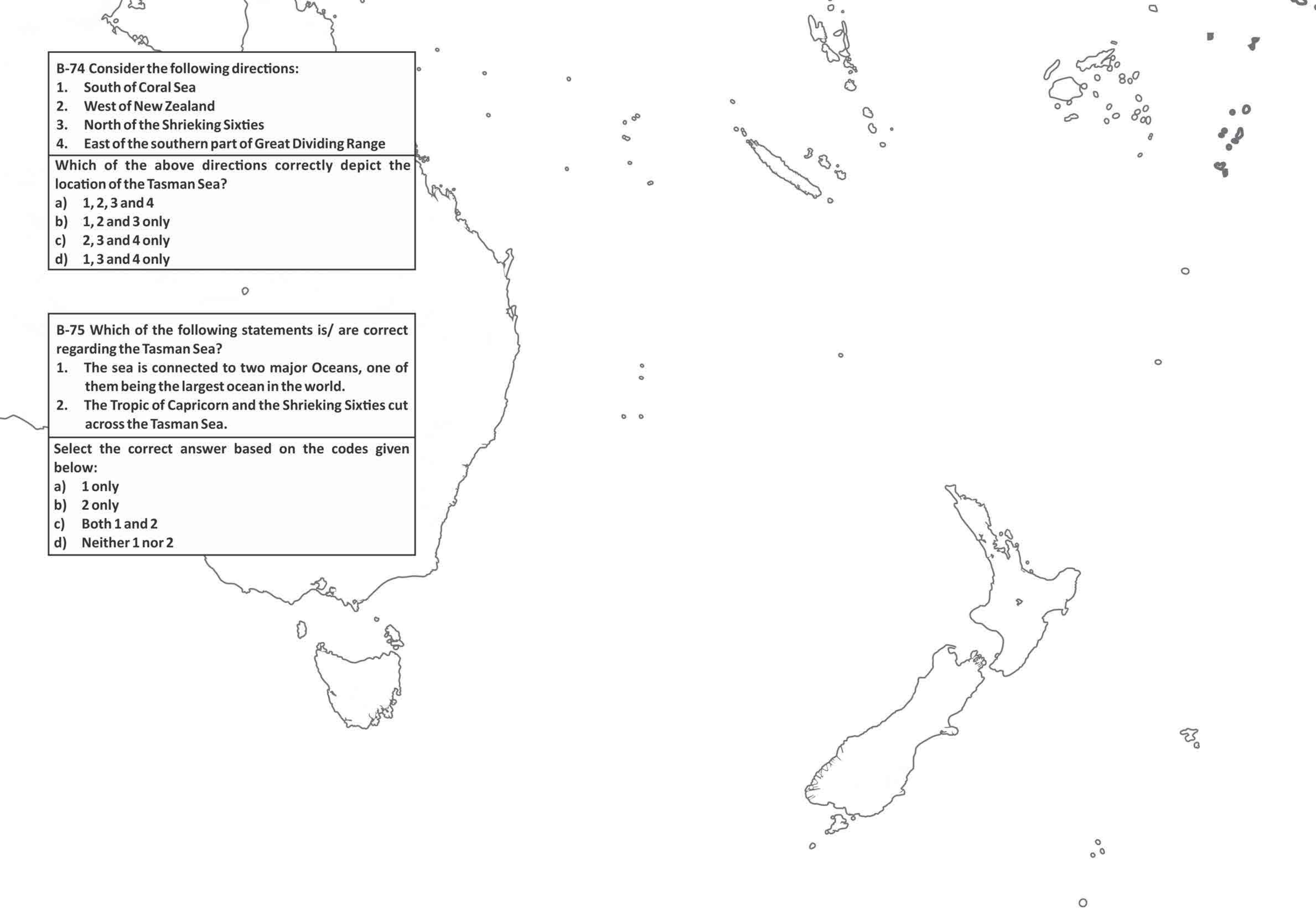
(a) Southeast of the Baffin Bay
(b) South of the Bering Sea
(c) East of the Great Lakes of America
(d) West of the Labrador Sea

B-73 Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding Hudson Bay?

1. The Hudson Bay is cut through by the Arctic Circle.
2. The average salinity in the Hudson Bay is lower than that of ocean water, which effectively reduces the ice-free time of the bay.
3. The sea is bordered by Canada only.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3



B-74 Consider the following directions:

1. South of Coral Sea
2. West of New Zealand
3. North of the Shrieking Sixties
4. East of the southern part of Great Dividing Range

Which of the above directions correctly depict the location of the Tasman Sea?

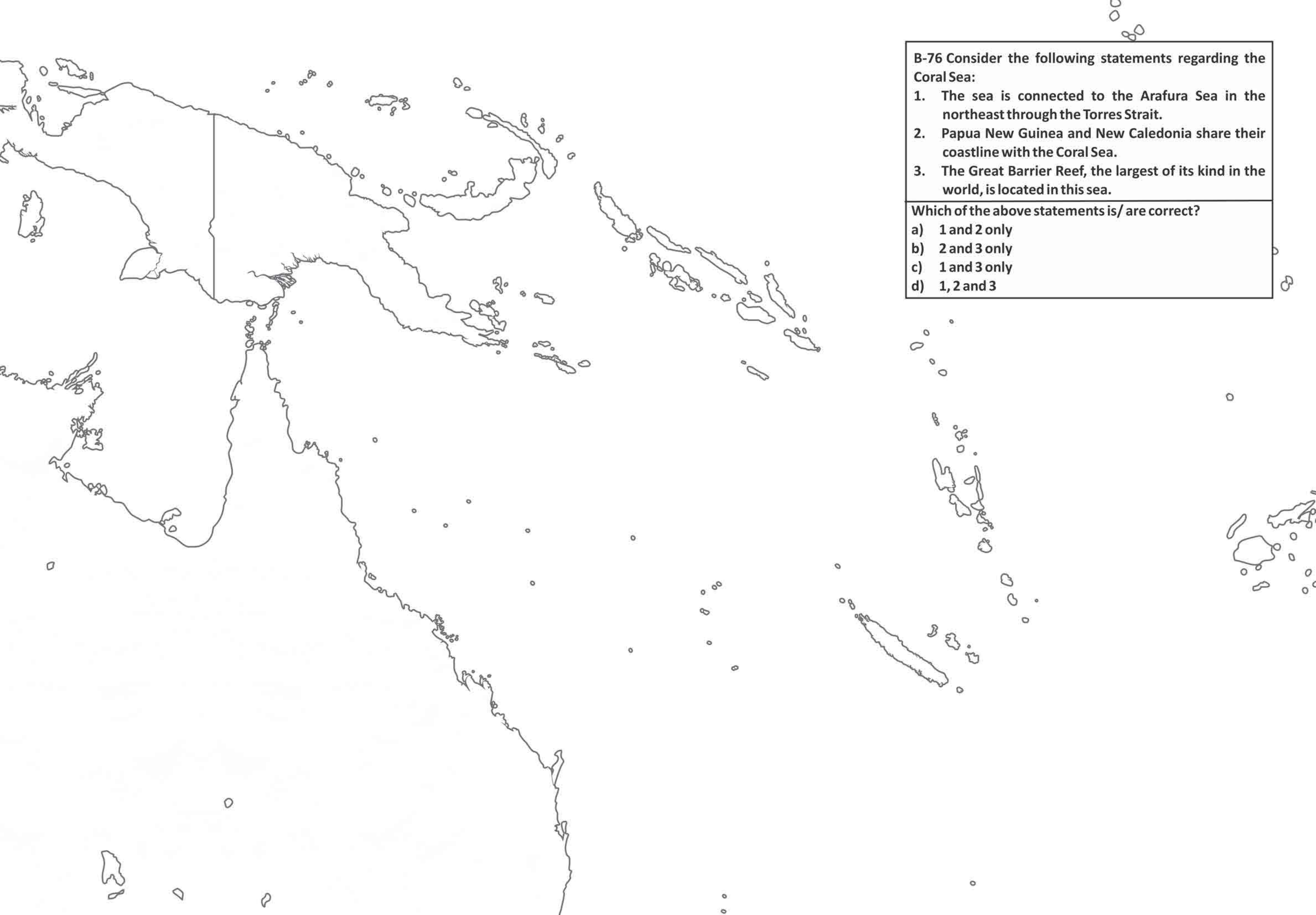
a) 1, 2, 3 and 4
b) 1, 2 and 3 only
c) 2, 3 and 4 only
d) 1, 3 and 4 only

B-75 Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding the Tasman Sea?

1. The sea is connected to two major Oceans, one of them being the largest ocean in the world.
2. The Tropic of Capricorn and the Shrieking Sixties cut across the Tasman Sea.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2



B-76 Consider the following statements regarding the Coral Sea:

1. **The sea is connected to the Arafura Sea in the northeast through the Torres Strait.**
2. **Papua New Guinea and New Caledonia share their coastline with the Coral Sea.**
3. **The Great Barrier Reef, the largest of its kind in the world, is located in this sea.**

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

B-77 Which of the following could be seen in the Bering Sea?

1. **Gulf of Alaska**
2. **Bristol Bay**
3. **Siberian Sea**
4. **International Date Line**
5. **Arctic Circle**
6. **Chukchi Sea**

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

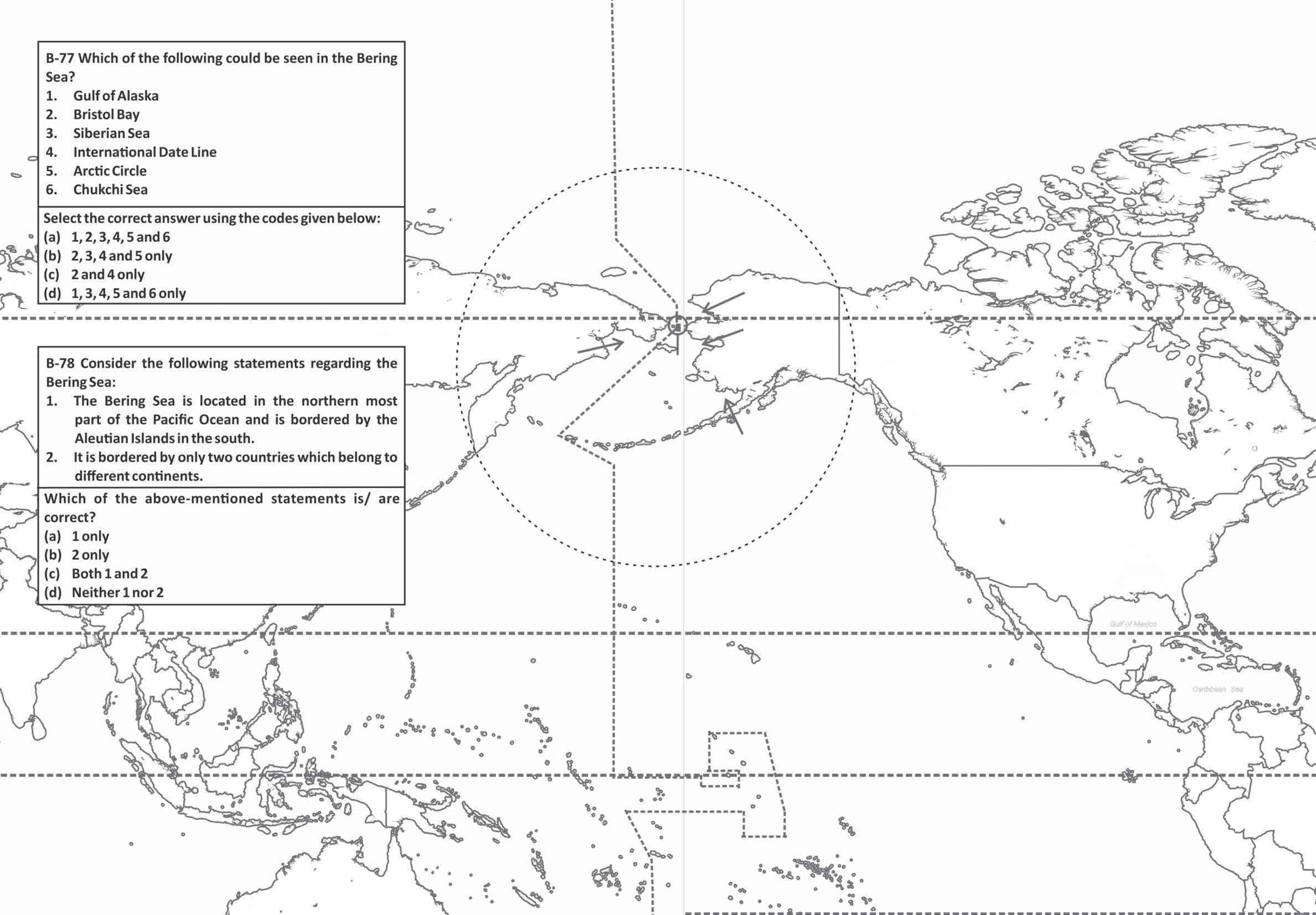
(a) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6
(b) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only

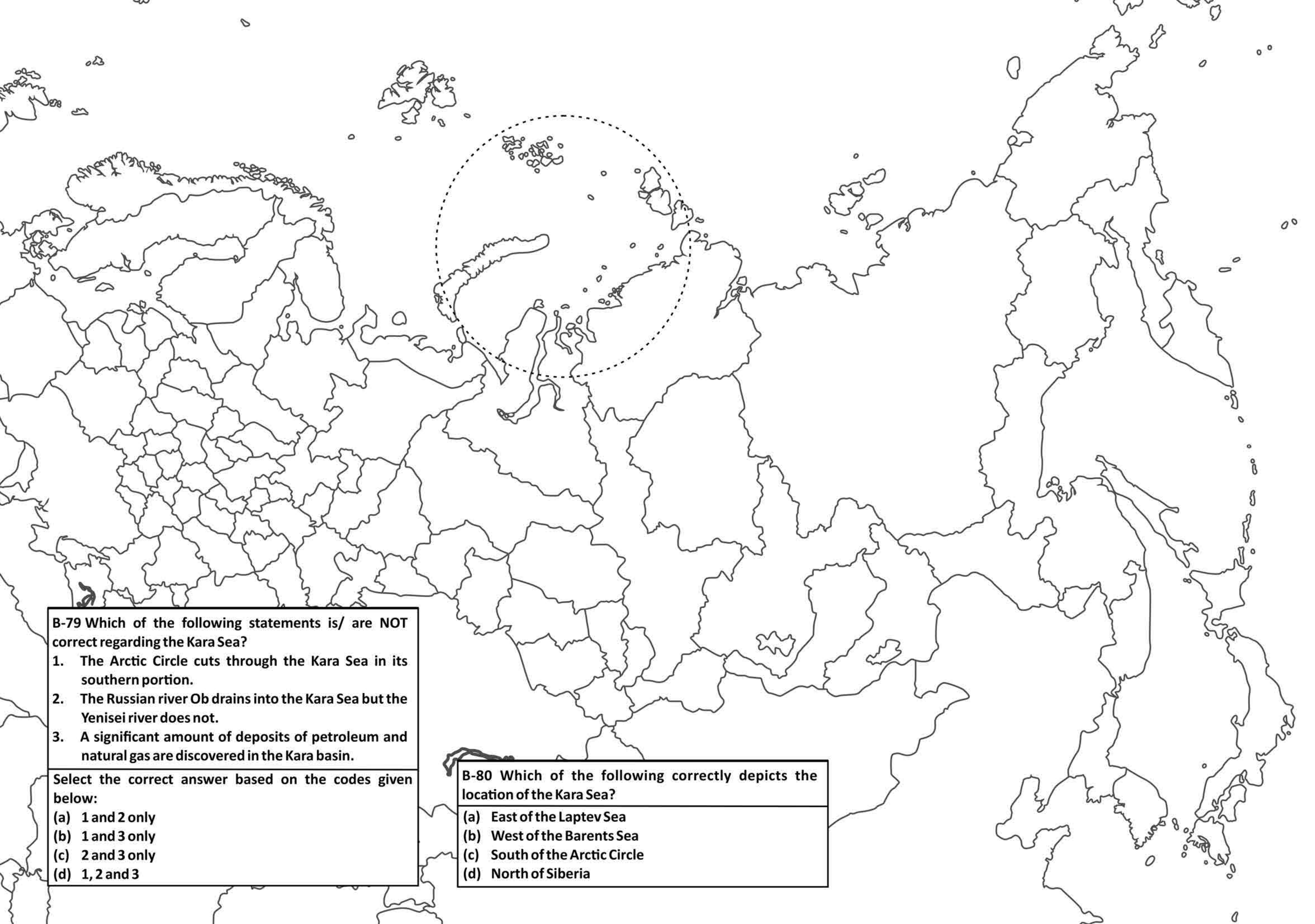
B-78 Consider the following statements regarding the Bering Sea:

1. **The Bering Sea is located in the northern most part of the Pacific Ocean and is bordered by the Aleutian Islands in the south.**
2. **It is bordered by only two countries which belong to different continents.**

Which of the above-mentioned statements is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2





B-79 Which of the following statements is/ are NOT correct regarding the Kara Sea?

1. The Arctic Circle cuts through the Kara Sea in its southern portion.
2. The Russian river Ob drains into the Kara Sea but the Yenisei river does not.
3. A significant amount of deposits of petroleum and natural gas are discovered in the Kara basin.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

B-80 Which of the following correctly depicts the location of the Kara Sea?

(a) East of the Laptev Sea
(b) West of the Barents Sea
(c) South of the Arctic Circle
(d) North of Siberia